

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Blue skies, 68°F (20°C)
Tonight: Clear, pleasy, 50°F (10°C)
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, 70°F (21°C)
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Friday, October 20, 2000

Institute Discusses New Financial Plan

Plan Funds Construction, Grad Students

By Nancy L. Keuss
STAFF REPORTER

Executive Vice President John R. Curry explained the Institute's financial plan for the next decade and President Charles M. Vest outlined MIT's development plans at Wednesday's faculty meeting.

The meeting focused heavily on the ten-year financial plan described by Curry as "a very aggressive and ambitious agenda in capital expansion, direct funding of graduate fellowships, tuition remission for graduate students in the summer session, the renewal of old physical plants, and the creation of new capital."

Adopted by the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation in April of this year, the plan allots \$500 million from unrestricted endowment for new construction, plant renovations, and graduate student tuition and fellowships.

Among MIT's plans for residential and campus life are the redesign of the residence system, the new undergraduate residence hall, substantial graduate housing, the new Sports and Fitness Center, improvements in freshman orientation, AIFC accreditation, and

increased student activity funds.

The residence hall, financed by a donation from the Simmons family, broke ground Monday. The groundbreaking for the Sports and Fitness Center will be October 27.

Other planned construction includes the Stata Center, chemistry building renovations, an aero/astro learning lab for complex systems, the Media Lab expansion, the MIBR/Neuroscience complex, and new facilities at the Sloan School of Management.

The Media Lab expansion, described by Vest as "a magnificent contribution" will be funded entirely by private sources, including CSK Corporation Chairman Isao Okawa's \$27 million donation for the Okawa Center annex that includes labs for researching technologies that help children.

Other media and visual and performing arts developments include the Comparative Media Studies program and the Lab for the Performing Arts.

In addition, Vest noted areas in which he believes MIT lags some-

Faculty Meeting, Page 25



Professor of Biology Jonathan King spoke about the problems of corporate control of genes Tuesday evening in 2-190. The talk was organized by the Council for Responsible Genetics.

Students Air Mental Health Concerns



Aimee Smith G voices her opinion that MIT does not provide enough financial support for the Mental Health program.

By Pey-Hua Hwang
STAFF REPORTER

A Mental Health teach-in was held on the first floor lobby of the Student Center Wednesday afternoon. Speakers ranging from administrators to students who had gone through Mental Health Services at MIT spoke at the forum.

Attendees included MIT's Chief of Mental Health Peter Reich, Dean of Student Life Larry G. Benedict, students who wanted to voice their opinions about shortcomings in the system, and students interested in learning more about the system.

Undergraduate Association Committee on Student Life Co-Chair David A. Mellis '02 said that the teach-in was designed to address the issue of how to minimize the number of bad experiences students have in seeking help at MIT.

The teach-in opened with statements about mental health by Reich and Assistant Dean Kimberly G. McGlothlin. Among the points they mentioned were the availability of Nightline and walk-in hours for counseling held everyday at MIT Medical from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Mellis spoke about how the CSL

Teach-in, Page 19

John D. Corley

John D. Corley, director of the MIT Concert Band for 51 seasons, died Thursday morning at the age of 81. Born July 19, 1919, Corley began directing the band in 1948 and was a founding member of MIT's music department soon thereafter. His last public appearance



COURTESY OF MIT CONCERT BAND
John Corley

was at the school of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences' 50th anniversary concert last Friday night, when he was acknowledged to great applause as the only HASS member present for the school's full 50 years. The Concert Band continues today under the direction of Thomas Reynolds, but as band alumnus David Strauss '75 said of Corley's direction, "he can't be replaced."

More impressive than Corley's long directing tenure was his dedication to the Band's students, and their dedication to him. Corley's retirement concert last year was attended by over 70 former students from across the country, representing most of his fifty years as director. "John was completely focused on serving the students," said former band member and active alumnus Charles R. Marge '84. "He saw his role as to bring out the best in the students. ... His focus was never on himself." Corley encouraged the Band's tradition of student leadership as well, said Marge. "John fostered that sense of community."

In addition to his role in the Concert Band, Corley directed a variety of other ensembles, most in the service of musical education. "John was a great musical citizen," said MIT Wind Ensemble Director and Music Lecturer Frederick E. Harris. Corley taught conducting at the Boston Conservatory of Music, directed the MIT Symphony

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The Tech presents its spread of pictures showcasing New England's fall foliage.

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Hot Zone author Richard Preston offered insight into his writing and reporting style at a speech at MIT.

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WORLD & NATION

Scandal Undermines Philippines' Actor-President's Lead Role

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

If there is one thing Philippine President Joseph Estrada should have learned over the past week, it is to pick his friends carefully. The former action movie star finds himself caught up in the biggest scandal of his career after a onetime drinking buddy, provincial Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, claimed to have funneled the equivalent of more than \$8.2 million in illegal gambling kickbacks to the president. Estrada's many opponents have seized on the charges to try to force the president from office. Leading national figures, including Catholic Cardinal Jaime Sin, have called on Estrada to resign. On Wednesday, 40 members of the House of Representatives filed a motion of impeachment. Hours later, about 10,000 protesters staged an anti-Estrada demonstration in the heart of Manila's business district. Estrada's critics contend that the gambling scandal is responsible for hammering the value of the Philippine peso and prompting the stock market to tumble to its lowest level in two years. But allegations sufficient to bring down a leader in some countries are likely to result only in a long and nasty political spat in the Philippines. The Populist president commands a strong following among the poor, and his coalition controls 80 percent of the seats in the House — making impeachment unlikely.

Amtrak Unveils High-Speed Train From Washington to Boston

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Amtrak's long-awaited Acela Express, North America's first high-speed rail service, will make its inaugural run Nov. 16 with an invitation-only trip from Washington to Boston, the company announced Wednesday. Revenue service will begin Dec. 11. The first eight-car train arrived dramatically through artificial fog at Washington's Union Station Wednesday afternoon. "If no one's figured it out, this is a very big deal," quipped Amtrak President and CEO George Warrington, after alighting from the train with a bevy of VIPs. He took the opportunity to urge Congress to commit money for more high-speed corridors across the country as an answer to highway gridlock and congested airports. But after a year of delays, just getting one Acela train rolling appeared to be reason to celebrate. The needle-nose, silver-and-blue train promises to cut a trip between Baltimore and Boston by two hours, gliding at speeds up to 150 mph. A trip from Baltimore to New York will be just 11 minutes faster than on conventional trains.

Russian Officials Offer Report About Sinking of Kursk

THE WASHINGTON POST

MURMANSK, RUSSIA

Russian officials have blamed the August sinking of the Kursk submarine on a collision with another submarine or vessel, or possibly a World War II floating mine. An official inquiry has yet to release its findings. Although no one interviewed for this article claimed to have definitive proof, several specialists said the available evidence suggests that the first blast involved a misfiring torpedo engine, which touched off a fire, panic, flooding and the catastrophic detonation of warheads on board. During the torpedo-firing exercise, most of the crew would have been in the forward sections of the vessel, according to the sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified. The explosion appears to have ripped through not only the torpedo compartment, but also into the second, the command center, and possibly into the third and fourth compartments, the combat, radio and living quarters. "Nothing was left of the people inside — minced meat," said a Russian navy communications officer at the headquarters of the Northern Fleet.

WEATHER Good Weather Ahead

Massachusetts gloom and doom will clear up over this weekend, and it couldn't happen at a more perfect time. Most students have finished their first wave of MIT exams by this time, and they can expect a sunny and relaxing weekend as reward for their hard work over the last week. Enjoy the weather ahead!

Weekend Outlook

Friday: Sunshine against a deep blue sky and pleasant, with a high 68°F (20°C).
Friday night: Clear and pleasant, low of 50°F (10°C).
Saturday: Mostly sunny, warm and breezy. High 70°F (21°C) and low of 47°F (9°C).
Sunday: Bright sunshine and breezy, with high of 56°F (13°C), low 41°F (6°C).
Monday: Sunshine against a deep blue sky, becoming breezy later in the day. High of 58°F (14°C), low of 46 (8°C).

West Bank Gun Battle Kills Two, Injures Over Eighteen

By Rebecca Trounson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

In an escalation of violence that threatened to scuttle a fragile cease-fire agreement, Israeli soldiers trying to rescue Jewish settlers waged a five-hour gun battle with Palestinian militiamen on a West Bank hillside Thursday, leaving two people dead and at least 18 wounded. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak declared the shootout near Nablus a "gross violation" of the shaky truce announced Tuesday by President Clinton at an emergency Middle East summit in Egypt. A spokesman for Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, in turn, accused Israel of attempting to sabotage international efforts to halt the worst violence here in years. "Israel is playing with fire," spokesman Nabil abu Rudaineh said. The dead included a Palestinian and an Israeli civilian who bled to death awaiting rescue. The injured included 15 Palestinians and at least three Israelis, according to Israeli and Palestinian officials. At the peak of the battle, Israeli helicopter gunships, attempting to evacuate wounded Jews, raked the Palestinian positions with machine-gun fire. The Palestinians fired back with heavy machine guns, prompting shouts of triumph captured on videotape and later broadcast continuously in Israel from a crowd of onlookers. No helicopters were hit, the Israeli army said. The shooting came on the eve of a critical deadline, set for midday Friday, for full observance of the truce worked out at the Egyptian resort of Sharm el Sheik. Under international pressure, Barak and Arafat agreed to try to end the 3-week-old uprising that has claimed

109 lives, most Palestinians, and left prospects for Middle East peace in ruins. At day's end, with the accusations flying, it was not clear if the Nablus incident would render the agreement void. At a minimum, it seemed certain to complicate the shaky efforts to return to the relative calm that prevailed here until Sept. 28. And it dealt a further setback to any hopes that Israel and the Palestinians might soon return to peace talks. The 1993 Oslo peace process, which was based on the slow and steady building of trust between Israelis and Palestinians, seems mortally wounded. "Assuming there is an end to the violence, it is not going to be so easy to pivot to resumption of the negotiations," a Western diplomat said Thursday. "It's very personal. A lot of effort was put into the personal relations of the negotiators over the years, and that trust has been broken in a clear and palpable way." Until midafternoon Thursday, the level of violence was relatively low. Two Palestinian police officers died in what Palestinians described as a gas explosion near the Bethlehem headquarters of Arafat's elite police guard, although Israelis expressed some suspicion about the origin of the blast. And there were intermittent clashes elsewhere. But the real trouble began when about 40 Israeli settlers, including four babies and eight older children, arrived at the rocky hillside overlooking Joseph's Tomb, a Jewish shrine inside Nablus that was overrun and ransacked Oct. 7 by Palestinians. The settlers, some of whom were armed, had received permission to visit the site despite a recent prohi-

bition on Israeli excursions to the West Bank, Israeli officials said. The group traveled on a bus with a military escort. The decision to allow the Israelis to journey so close to Nablus in the current tense atmosphere was a "grave lapse" in judgment, Israeli Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Eitan, chief of the Central Command, told reporters late Thursday. "Such a tour should not have been allowed to take place," Eitan said. "But let it be clear that the responsibility for this incident remains solely that of the Palestinian Authority." There are widely varying accounts of what happened next. Israelis said Palestinian gunmen opened fire on the group from Askar, a neighborhood on the eastern edge of Nablus. Palestinians said the Israelis fired first. Hussam Khader, a Palestinian legislator who said he witnessed the beginning of the battle, told the Los Angeles Times that the settlers had attacked a Palestinian home at the bottom of the hill, torching it and terrorizing its residents. Another account said the Israelis had opened fire on Palestinians harvesting olives. Several helicopters fired on Palestinian militiamen seeking cover amid the boulders on Mount Ebal, which means "Accursed Mountain," a reference to its barren landscape. Eitan said the settlers were scattered across the hillside, making rescue extremely difficult. Some of the wounded could not be evacuated for several hours. The Israeli general said Palestinian officials rebuffed attempts to arrange a truce so the wounded could be evacuated. Palestinian officials said they could not comment.

As Election Nears, Candidates Make Television Appearances

By Michael Finnegan and James Gerstenzang

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK

In this baseball-crazed city, the Republican and Democratic presidential candidates staged their own subway series Thursday, playing out their politics in TV talk show studios, and, in formal attire, on a shared dais at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Between the two of them, Gov. George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore taped five television entertainment shows within a matter of hours. Then, in a turn to election year tradition, they directed jibes at each other, and themselves, at a formal dinner that has for decades been a candidate-magnet every four years. Gore made the economy the centerpiece of his day, presenting the question of how to extend the nation's prosperity as "the big choice" facing voters on Nov. 7, election day. "We have an obligation to make America work for all the families who work hard every day," he said. By embarking on a course that Gore says would risk a return to budget deficits, putting off reduction of the government debt and bringing on higher interest rates, "Gov. Bush's plan gambles with our prosperity," the vice president said. Bush spent the morning in Michigan, where he fought off Gore's attacks on his proposed overhaul of Social Security. He

described his plan for the retirement program as part of his "agenda for younger Americans." Stung by Gore's charge that he would leave Social Security "bankrupt within a generation," the Republican presidential candidate accused Gore of waging what he called an irresponsible "campaign of fear." Bush told hundreds of supporters in this blue-collar suburb of Detroit that his plan would, in fact, enable "the working class" to join "the investor class." In New York, Gore spoke at the Low Library at Columbia University. The setting — a chamber of marble columns and stone walls beneath a high, domed ceiling — offered a sense of academic gravitas to his words. Presenting the decision on Election Day as "one of the biggest choices America has faced in the last half-century," the vice president said economic prosperity is essential to preserve Social Security, protect the environment, fund domestic programs and give prescription drug coverage to Medicare recipients. "This is about more than numbers on a spread sheet," he said to some 300 people, most of them students, who filled the room. Gore said the election offers a choice between the Bush tax cuts that benefit the wealthiest citizens or his prescription for a balanced budget, lower national debt, middle-class tax cuts, a boost for education, Medicare and Social Security.

"We can't do both," the vice president said. "The choice couldn't be clearer: Under my plan, zero deficits and a zero national debt within 12 years." Gore said Bush's economic agenda, built around a \$1.3 trillion tax cut, would cause a \$1.1 trillion federal budget deficit over 10 years. He said his tax cut plan — valued at \$500 billion — would direct specific reductions to middle-income people who pay college tuition or other specific needs. Bush, speaking Thursday in a working-class suburb of Detroit, responded to Gore's claim that Social Security would face a \$1 trillion shortfall under the Republican plan to allow private investment of some retirement funds. "My opponent, a man prone to exaggerations at times, seems to be deliberately missing a trillion dollars," said Bush, speaking to several hundred people in Fraser, Mich. "Maybe if you've been in Washington too long, you lose your ability to count real money." Bush said his proposal to let workers put part of their Social Security benefits into private investment accounts would generate \$3 trillion by 2016 — triple the amount that Gore says the program would drain from the Social Security system. Bush said his Democratic rival's "first instinct is to question whether young workers can be trusted to make their own investment decisions."

U.S. Navy Recovers Last Four Bodies from Wreckage of Cole

By Paul Richter and David Kelly
LOS ANGELES TIMES

ADEN, YEMEN

The U.S. Navy on Thursday recovered the last four bodies of American sailors from the disabled destroyer Cole, as the retired military commander who had approved the policy of refueling ships in Yemen told a Senate panel that the danger level, while high, was “actually better than we had elsewhere” in the region.

One week after a small boat apparently piloted by suicide bombers blasted a hole in the ship’s side at the port here, killing 17 crew members, Navy officials announced that recovery workers with hydraulic equipment had removed the last four bodies from a mass of crushed metal and tangled wire in the ship’s interior.

The remains are to be flown soon to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, where the military maintains a mortuary. A plane transporting the bodies of eight victims removed earlier this week is sched-

uled to arrive at the base Friday. Five bodies recovered immediately after last week’s bombing have already been sent to the United States.

In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee in Washington, retired Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni described Yemen as a nation with a weak government and a coast that leaked terrorists like “a sieve.”

The way terrorists were using the country as a safe haven and transit point into Saudi Arabia made it a security “soft spot” on the Arabian Peninsula, he said.

But Zinni, who retired in June as head of the military’s regional command in the Middle East, said Aden offered the safest and most practical refueling stop the Navy had in the region. It was preferable, he said, to facilities in Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Eritrea, and the port of Djibouti, which the Navy abandoned as a refueling stop in 1997 because of perceived risks.

Indeed, he said Aden was one of

the few ports in the area where U.S. intelligence had not detected specific threats to American interests.

Zinni told the committee that he personally examined the security of the port in a series of visits to Aden between May 1998 and May of this year.

Each time, Zinni said, it was clear to him that the Yemeni government was sincere in wanting American help in controlling its coastline and fighting terrorism.

And he said he considered it desirable for the United States to have a presence at the southern end of the Red Sea, which is an important “strategic choke point.”

Zinni said there are good reasons why the United States should strengthen its ties with Yemen, despite the problems and dangers the nation presents.

“In the Central Command region, there are rats’ nests or havens for terrorists: Afghanistan with the Taliban, Sudan, Somalia,” he said. “We don’t need Yemen to become another one.”

GOP-Led House Panel Criticizes Reno for Protecting White House

By Eric Lichtblau
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In a bitter parting shot at outgoing Attorney General Janet Reno, a Republican-led House panel issued a blistering final report Thursday accusing Reno of going to “extraordinary lengths” to protect the Clinton administration from charges of campaign finance abuses.

But Democrats characterized the 200-page report from the House Government Reform Committee as a political hatchet job, meant to smear the Clinton administration just three weeks before the election.

And the Justice Department challenged the notion that its decisions must be “corrupt or ill-motivated” simply because Republicans disagree with them.

“Indeed, such an approach undermines the value of congressional oversight,” the Justice Department wrote in a letter to Rep. Dan Burton (R-Ind.) chairman of the panel and a longtime Reno nemesis.

Burton and Reno have sparred for years over allegations of campaign fund-raising abuses in the 1996 Clinton-Gore campaign, with Burton’s committee even holding Reno in contempt for refusing to

turn over subpoenaed documents. Thursday’s sharp rhetoric made clear that, even in the administration’s final days, the relationship is no less acrimonious.

After some half-dozen hearings on campaign finance since 1997, Burton’s committee offered in its final report an A-to-Z recap of the Justice Department’s alleged mishandling of its investigations into possible illegal contributions. The report was approved by the committee Thursday on a voice vote, with the lone opposition coming from Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) the only Democrat in attendance and the ranking minority member.

“Given the evidence compiled by the committee,” the report concluded, “it is hard to escape the conclusion that the attorney general has acted politically to benefit the president, the vice president and her own political party.”

Specifically, the committee repeated its view that Reno should have recused herself from reviewing Gore’s fund-raising activities because of a clear conflict. She showed even poorer judgment, the committee alleged, by refusing to appoint an independent counsel to investigate Gore in 1997, despite the recommendations of FBI Director

Louis J. Freeh and a top prosecutor. And she used obfuscation and distortions to cover up her political motivations, the report charged.

Burton’s committee also challenged the Justice Department again for not questioning key players in the fund-raising investigations and not asking Clinton or Gore until recently about central issues.

Not until earlier this year, for instance, was Clinton “asked a single question” about foreign money contributed to his 1996 campaign, was Gore asked about the controversial fund-raiser at the Buddhist temple in Hacienda Heights, Calif., or were Clinton and Gore asked about White House coffees with potential donors, the report noted.

The committee also alleged that the Justice Department failed to investigate damaging leaks, withheld documents from Congress and refused to look into criminal allegations against a Reno friend.

But Democrats said that the evidence refutes the accusations. In the committee’s hearings, “not one witness has said that the attorney general is deceitful, corrupt or partisan. Rather, witness after witness has testified under oath to the attorney general’s integrity,” Democrats fired back in a report of their own.

Greenspan Predicts Fall in Oil Prices; Productivity Growth Still to Continue

By John M. Berry
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Thursday morning that world oil prices are likely to fall from their recent highs and that the oil price spike has done little damage to the U.S. economy.

In an upbeat speech at The Cato Institute’s annual monetary conference here, Greenspan also said there is no “credible evidence” that the acceleration of productivity growth, which has been spurred by technological advances in recent years, has come to an end.

The continuing gain in productivity — the amount of goods and services produced for each hour worked — has allowed firms to pay higher wages without passing those costs on to their customers and “has been essential to containing price increases,” the Fed chairman said.

Touching on a key issue in the current presidential campaign, Greenspan said the big swing in the

federal budget from large deficits in the early 1990’s to growing surpluses most recently “has helped fill the pool of saving that has fed productivity-enhancing and cost-reducing capital formation.” The earlier “out-sized federal budget deficit ... was absorbing an inordinate share of our national saving,” he said.

Vice President Al Gore, the Democratic presidential nominee, frequently makes this same point about federal finances in his campaign appearances while attacking his opponent, Republican Gov. George W. Bush of Texas, for proposing a broad tax cut that would reduce future budget surpluses by \$1.6 billion over the next decade.

However, Gore has also proposed a series of smaller tax cuts that would reduce the surpluses by about \$500 billion over the same period and has urged spending increases for a variety of programs that also would eat into the surpluses.

“The mounting fiscal surpluses have been an important source of

national saving, muting upward pressures on interest rates at a time of strong demand for private credit,” Greenspan explained. “By keeping the cost of capital lower than it otherwise would have been, the surpluses have contributed to (greater capital investments) and faster growth of productivity.”

Then with a nod to the campaign promises and the large increase in the fiscal 2001 budget now pending in Congress, he added, “But I believe most of us harbor doubts about whether the dynamics of the political process, some of which have been on display in the current budgetary deliberations, will allow the surpluses to continue to grow.”

Greenspan’s comments on the outlook for oil prices and how their increase has affected the economy were the most detailed he has ever given.

He noted that the U.S. economy uses oil much less intensively than it did in the 1970s when oil price spikes did great damage.

House Approves Project To Restore Everglades

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The House on Thursday approved the first phase of a \$7.8 billion plan to restore the Florida Everglades, one of the largest such environmental projects in the United States.

More than half of the 300-mile-long Everglades ecosystem has been destroyed through decades of flood-control efforts that, while benefiting farms and new housing communities, disrupted the natural water flow. The legislation, part of a larger water resources bill, authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin a 36-year project to restore the natural flow of water into the Everglades.

The water resources bill was approved by the House, 394-14.

The Senate approved a similar version of the bill in September, virtually assuring that the Everglades restoration project will become law. But differences between the two bills must be reconciled.

The Everglades is the largest remaining tropical and subtropical wilderness in the United States. In 1948, however, Congress directed the Corps of Engineers to reroute the natural water flow to control flooding in southern Florida, which was then on the verge of a population boom. The work changed the balance of the ecosystem, threatening indigenous plants and animals with extinction.

New York Fans Eye Each Other Across the Baseball Divide

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK

As he boarded a No. 4 train bound for Yankee Stadium on Thursday, Danny Manzo adjusted the bill of his Yankee cap and spoke lyrically about the war ahead: “See those jerks wearing Mets caps in the back of this car?” he snapped. “Their team is gonna be history. Yanks in five.”

Across town, on a No. 7 train rumbling toward Shea Stadium, Randy Sullivan buttoned his Mets wind breaker and smirked at the mere thought of Yankee fans. “These people are full of themselves,” he sniffed. “Mets in four.”

While many here are sharply divided in their baseball loyalties, the city is thriving on a family feud that gets noisier — and nastier — by the day.

In the hours leading up to Saturday’s opening pitch, the Big Apple has gone bonkers over the first Subway Series in 44 years: Streets and subways are filled with people wearing Mets and Yankees caps. The Mets and Yankee clubhouse stores on Fifth Avenue had to be closed three times by fire marshals because too many people jammed inside, scooping up \$100 jerseys and other pricey mementos.

As the anticipation grows, the city’s tabloids have cranked out one World Series special section after another, with more to come; talk radio is crackling with Big Apple baseball chatter.

“This city will go crazy,” Yankee Manager Joe Torre predicted when his team won the American League pennant Tuesday.

NAACP Targets Defense, Customs For Discrimination

THE BALTIMORE SUN

PHILADELPHIA

The NAACP’s Federal Sector Task Force announced plans Thursday to highlight discriminatory practices it claims occur frequently within the Department of Defense.

Task force members also vowed to continue challenging U.S. Customs Service officials on unfair strip searches of blacks, particularly women, as they re-enter the United States.

“You’ll see the Department of Defense come under vigorous attack,” promised Leroy W. Warren Jr., task force chairman, at the quarterly meeting here of the 64-member Board of Directors for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Among key issues being discussed are racial profiling, mandatory sentencing, a moratorium on the death penalty and voter registration. Warren, who lives in Silver Springs, Md., spoke angrily about hiring practices at Defense, which he said keeps blacks and other minorities out of key positions.

He said his task force would present detailed evidence in December, and accused Defense Secretary William Cohen of not being serious about equal employment.

Pentagon spokesman Timothy Blair said he was not aware of widespread complaints by blacks or other minorities, adding that the Defense Department is “pretty proud of our record overall.”

Blair said it was hard to comment on the allegations without having specific data or complaints before him. “I don’t know what this is all about,” Blair said.

Air Traffic Computer Glitch Causes Hundreds of Delays

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Air traffic control computer failures grounded or delayed hundreds of flights into and out of Los Angeles and Orange counties and other parts of the Southwestern United States Thursday, jamming airport terminals with thousands of frustrated travelers.

At Burbank Airport, a Southwest Airlines representative warned over the loudspeaker: “It is possible that any one of you won’t get to your final destination today.”

Then, she added, jokingly, “Don’t shoot the messenger.”

A Southwest spokeswoman said 70 Southern California flights were canceled.

“Most are running three or four hours late, if they are getting out at all,” spokeswoman Sonja O’Neill said.

Arrival and departure monitors in Los Angeles International Airport’s always busy Terminal 1 flashed “delayed” or “cancelled” after nearly every flight.

All 2,200 flights into and out of the airport “were delayed in some form or another,” said spokeswoman Diana Sanchez, with the length of the delays varying from flight to flight.

OPINION

Student Center Not a Classroom

On October 9, 1965, Institute President Julius A. Stratton dedicated the new Student Center, which would one day be renamed in his honor. Excitement over the first MIT facility

Editorial

dedicated to student life and activities was intense, for no one knew quite what effects the new building would have. “The unanswered question is still the same: What new activities will this building engender?” asked *The Tech* in an editorial on Oct. 13 [“After the Ceremonies —What?”]. “After Kresge was built, there was a dramatic rise in student performing art groups. The Student Center offers opportunities for music, graphic arts, publications, service groups — the students will have to complete the list of possibilities.”

Over the past thirty-five years, that has been accomplished. Students have filled the building with the offices of myriad activities, ranging from this publication to the undergraduate student government to a varied assortment of performing arts groups. The Student Center also houses several food outlets, a branch of The Coop, a post office, and other commercial services important to students.

It is for these reasons that *The Tech* strongly opposes the plan proposed by Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine to place an interactive physics classroom in the Stu-

dent Center Reading Room. Placing a classroom in a building which serves as the campus center on student life violates the sanctity of the Student Center.

The Student Center should not be a casualty of the Institute’s incompetence at space planning. Students’ need for a retreat from the harried atmosphere on the other side of Mass. Ave. is far too important to place a classroom in the Student Center. The administration should consider other rooms on campus, such as the lecture halls in Buildings 1, 2, 3, and 4, which may be suitable space for this project.

The Tech emphasizes that it does not oppose the Technology Enabled Active Learning (TEAL) plan to bring interactive learning to introductory physics. The TEAL concept offers a refreshing change in the style of physics teaching at MIT, and we agree with Redwine that under the new style of teaching many students will be “more personally engaged.” But we believe this intriguing program belongs on the east side of Mass. Ave. and should not encroach on campus space devoted to student life.

We firmly believe that the Institute should reject the placement of the TEAL classroom in Student Center space if it is to remain true to the vision of the Student Center as a place for student life.

Letters To The Editor

Domestic Violence a Reality at MIT

On Tuesday night, I spoke to a pretty good sized crowd at AXO’s Domestic Violence 101. It was heartening to see so many MIT people there. But, after speaking, I was left with the nagging feeling that I did not convince people that dating violence happens at MIT. In truth, I think that this the core reason why it is so difficult to end dating violence. It’s hard to believe it happens anywhere. And it’s really hard to believe that it happens here.

My strategy to deal with this problem was to talk about statistics. Studies show that in the US, one in four college women has been in a physically abusive relationship. Also, about 20 percent of dating relationships are physically abusive. Overall in the US, a woman is beaten every nine seconds. And one very clear fact in the dating and domestic violence literature is that this violence exists proportionally in all racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and educational groups. So batterers can be high school dropouts, but they can also be doctors and professors. Despite these statistics, many

people seemed unconvinced. And what can I say? I don’t have any MIT-specific statistics.

So maybe I should concede that MIT could be better than anywhere else. Maybe MIT has less dating violence than the average college. There is no evidence to suggest that, but maybe for some reason, MIT just has less dating. How much less? — maybe a half, no, how about a third, no, better yet — MIT has only one-tenth the dating violence of the average college.

That’s pretty good, right? So only one in 40 women here are in physically abusive relationships. If there are about a thousand people a class, and exactly half are women, about thirteen women in each class, about 50 undergraduate women, are abused each year. That’s a lot of women who are beaten.

It doesn’t seem like MIT being ten times better than any other school (in relation to dating violence) makes things seem much better. What I realized last night after talking is that during all the questions of statistics, I was defending the numbers that don’t really matter. If there are only 50 women, instead of 500 women, should we care any less? Does that mean that it is okay, since the number is only 50?

The bottom line — dating violence does

happen at MIT. Even if we want to believe it doesn’t happen as much, we have to admit that it happens too much.

Radha Iyengar ’02
President
Stop Our Silence

Courses — On the Sauce?

In response to your editorial, “Campus Dining Reaches New Low” [Oct. 17], I have a quick comment to make. As a freshman, I don’t know much about the old Networks, but I really can’t imagine it being any worse than it is now.

The service is simply terrible. Last Friday, I ordered an item, and the lady was about to put a sauce on it. I said, “No thanks, I don’t want sauce.” She looked at me, said “No, I have to,” and proceeded to pour the sauce on anyway.

This is definitely not the way to run a business, and it reflects very poorly on MIT. The service at LaVerde’s is phenomenally better, and in my opinion, the quality is far superior as well.

More non-Aramark competition is absolutely necessary.

Steve Stern ’04



Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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Letters and **cartoons** must bear the authors’ signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Seeking Balance in the Details

Israel Unfairly Blamed, Justified in Self-Defense

Guest Column
Gregory Shakhnarovich

Coverage of the recent events in the Middle East, including *The Tech's* description of related activities at MIT, has been largely focused on blaming Israel for the violence. Many feel that a more balanced and informed account of the situation is necessary.

Since the early 90s, the Israeli people and three successive governments in Israel have been pursuing peace. In Camp David this year, such critical issues as the fate of Jerusalem have been brought up and discussed for the first time. Never before has the Israeli side been ready to make concessions as significant as those made at Camp David. The Palestinian Authority leaders were not satisfied with the negotiations, and have chosen violent confrontation as the way of achieving their goal.

Concern for the fate of the region and grief for the lost lives on both sides are not enough. It is important to identify who is responsible for the violence and thus has the ability to stop it. Some facts, which are not unknown but often seem to be forgotten, are helpful in this task.

The forces attacking Israeli soldiers and civilians are not just a crowd of teenagers throwing rocks. Many of the so-called "protesters" are armed adults who are out to kill. Some of them fire automatic rifles; others use petrol bombs, known under the somewhat frivolous name "Molotov cocktails," which are weapons capable of causing grave injuries and killing. These people, often uniformed Palestinian policemen, fire from the midst of unarmed crowds. At times, lives are endangered to an extent that forces Israeli security to respond with fire, and the result is casualties — not only among those

who were shooting.

The responsibility for this tragedy lies mainly with the Palestinian leadership, who encourages the violence and by this deliberately creates situations where civilian casualties are inevitable.

The disparity between the number of casualties on the two sides is often cited as evidence of injustice against the Palestinians. But having fewer casualties does not necessarily make you evil, and having more casualties does not necessarily make you right. The Palestinians, who are militarily the weaker side, have made it a policy to initiate a new wave of violence every day. In the face of this violence, Israel must do whatever it takes to defend its citizens and the members of its security forces.

Were it not for the orders given to the Israeli Defense Forces to show restraint and not open fire unless lives are in immediate danger, there would have been many more casualties. The IDF can use such restrained tactics because it is more powerful, and therefore usually able to target only those directly threatening lives. In fact, most of the incidents in which children and other unarmed civilians have been killed, including the infamous videotaped incident at the Netzarim junction, were situations in which IDF troops were at a military disadvantage, facing continuous cross-fire from large, organized, armed Palestinian forces, and therefore unable to return fire as accurately.

Israel has been accused of using excessive force. But what response to the armed violence would be considered "reasonable"? As an example, let us consider the lynching of two Israeli men in the city of Ramallah and the ensuing missile attack. Among the targets were the police station where the murder took

place and the antenna of the Palestinian radio station, which for months had been transmitting calls to kill Israelis.

However, buried in the fine print was the fact that Israel issued advance warning several hours before the attack to avoid the loss of human life. Indeed, not a single person was killed in the bombings. This contrasts with what had happened a few hours earlier — the brutal murder of Israeli reservists, where a mob was cheering at the sight of a murderer showing off his hands, covered with fresh blood, and the Palestinian police stood by.

All of these facts are available in various news sources. Unfortunately, most of us do not usually dive into the details but rather look at the headlines and pictures. It is often said that a picture is worth a thousand words. However, striking pictures may provoke strong emotions but do not give a full account of the events. Eventually, one has to read those thousand words. Then it becomes clear that in order to stop the violence, it is necessary for the Palestinian Authority, and the Palestinian people, to abandon their violent tactics, cease fire, and return to the negotiating table.

Gregory Shakhnarovich is a graduate student in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.



and confronting the other side's fears, Arabs and Israelis will both strengthen their own positions in the long run. Israel should not only allow a Palestinian state, it should hope for a strong and prosperous Palestine that will slow population growth and serve as a convenient trading partner in the region. When Palestinians can move out of refugee camps and into a state of their own, anti-Israeli extremists will lose their main recruiting pools. And Arabs should work for a secure, prosperous Israel that will be an economic and strategic friend in the region, not an enemy. Once the Israelis feel secure, they'll be far more inclined to give back occupied Arab territory.

Here in America, we know that diverse peoples can live together — not without occasional rancor and strife — but with a general sense of mutual respect and cooperation. That's the important message that we need to send to both Arabs and Israelis, instead of the one-sided rhetoric of Ric Keller, Hillary Clinton, and Congressman Gilman. Many experts and pundits say that the time for peace is not now, given the animosity that the past weeks have fostered. I could not disagree more. More now than ever, Israelis, Palestinians, and other Arabs need to realize that their future prosperity hinges on acknowledging each other's wounds and healing the past.

The U.S. Foreign Policy Bias

Philip Burrowes

At various times, certain groups have achieved such high levels of unpopularity as to make it impossible for the general population to deal with them rationally. Often they are scapegoated overtly, as was the case with Japanese-Americans during World War II. More subtly but equally insidiously, their positions have been simply disregarded in political affairs. I fear such a situation is currently brewing among the political elite of this country against Palestine, and not just because of the situation in the holy land. There is a history in this country against portraying the other children of Shem in any light but a negative one, and it is reaching a boiling point as the elections draw near.

In the presidential debates at Wake Forest, both candidates made it very clear they favored Israel, with Gore saying, "Our bonds with Israel are larger than agreements," and Bush making sure to add, "... Should I be president, Israel's going to be our friend." At a pro-Israel rally in Manhattan, both U.S. Senate candidates, Rick Lazio and Hillary Clinton, came out adamantly against the actions of Palestinians. There is substantial criticism of the Clinton administration's decision not to veto the U.N. Security Council's resolution condemning Israel for excessive violence. The prevailing political opinion seems to place the blame for the violence squarely on Palestinians, Arafat in particular.

The fact of the matter is that in the American electorate, Palestinians are not a great force and this is all part of a political game for votes. This is understandable in New York, which has an especially large Jewish contingent, but even in the national race, Israel represents something to the people of this country that Palestine does not. Israel is the product of World War II, internationally awarded recompense — compensation for guilt. Palestine, in contrast, does not even have sovereignty over its land, and is lead by a man who, however much of the violence he may have instigated, has not done anything to quell it.

Equally striking points can easily be made for Palestinians, however. From its inception, Israel has been, in essence, a West-backed invasion of their land. The Israeli military forces, even without allies taken into account, compare quite favorably with anything the P.L.O. could muster, yet Israel persists in being extremely defensive. Furthermore, the peace process is being pushed by a nation whose leaders have no compunction against vocally siding with Israel, and an international organization which — no matter its apparent stance — pretty much created modern-day Israel. These are honest brokers?

Yet the bipartisan bashing continues, and while I would be remiss in noting one possible reason for this, I fear the very possibility: prejudice. Most Israelis are Caucasian, as are most Americans, and Jewish people have long been part of American culture. Palestinians, however, are very much unlike the average American, and they (along with the other peoples of the Middle East) appear only to the average American when something unfortunate has occurred.

It at times seems that Middle Easterners contribute nothing but trouble to the nation; look at the oil crisis of the '70s, the Iran-Contra scandal, the Gulf War, and this never-ending situation with Israel. Muslims too have been introduced to the country in their most radical forms, such as Osama bin Laden and the Nation of Islam. Racially and religiously, then, Palestinians possess an aura of "otherness" which is antagonistic to the Occidental origins of this country, and which always seem to cast them as, if not the villains, the obstacles of peace.

Thankfully, domestically this bias has not been very oppressive. There are, for example, no witch hunts for Palestinian sympathizers like there were for Communists during the McCarthy era. It appears that in American foreign policy, however, it will persist in being overt for the next four years. Whether that transitions into a witch hunt remains to be seen, but, in the backdrop of current situations, it is an eerily real possibility.

Strength through Understanding

Jason H. Wasfy

My best friend is a Jew. I'm half-Arab. We grew up together on baseball cards, clarinet lessons, and the Washington Redskins. We were American kids — without ifs, ands, buts or hyphens. I don't think that either of us realized that our relatives had been fighting for decades until a third-grade geography lesson explored the history of the Sinai Peninsula.

My family's Arab connections, my close Jewish friends, and my proud American patriotism make it particularly difficult to watch Palestinian teenagers throwing rocks and burning American flags while Israeli troops shoot at them.

The point that I've never really understood is why the Arab and Israeli leaderships don't realize that, even after two and a half weeks of violence, they still have more of a common interest in peace than in fighting each other. One of my uncles, who owns a small environmental engineering company in Egypt, thrives on his business with Israelis. Before the death of one of my aunts from leukemia a few years ago, she made a quick, convenient trip to Israel to take advantage of Israel's wonderful hospitals. If Israel and Egypt were still at war, none of those rewards of peace would have been available.

These rewards don't end with personal family anecdotes. Palestinian-controlled waters near Gaza City hold significant oil reserves that a combination of Israeli technology and Palestinian permission can tap.

The potential for shared tourism revenues in a Holy Land free of war and military checkpoints is tremendous. News leaks indicate that Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and President Clinton have offered the Palestinians a state on 92 percent of the occupied Palestinian territories. The parties apparently agreed on everything except who holds formal "sovereignty" — not even practical control, mind you, they agreed even on that — on Jerusalem's Temple Mount. With such a close deal in hand, and such a promising peace dividend, why can't the Palestinians at least make a counteroffer to Barak's gesture?

Don't get me wrong. The Palestinians, none of whom have ever known a state of their own and many of whom have lived in squalid refugee camps their entire lives, deserve a chance to determine their own destiny on their own land. Rock-throwing Palestinian kids are no match for American-financed tanks, helicopters, and missiles. And the uneven battle scenes from Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza are especially hard to swal-

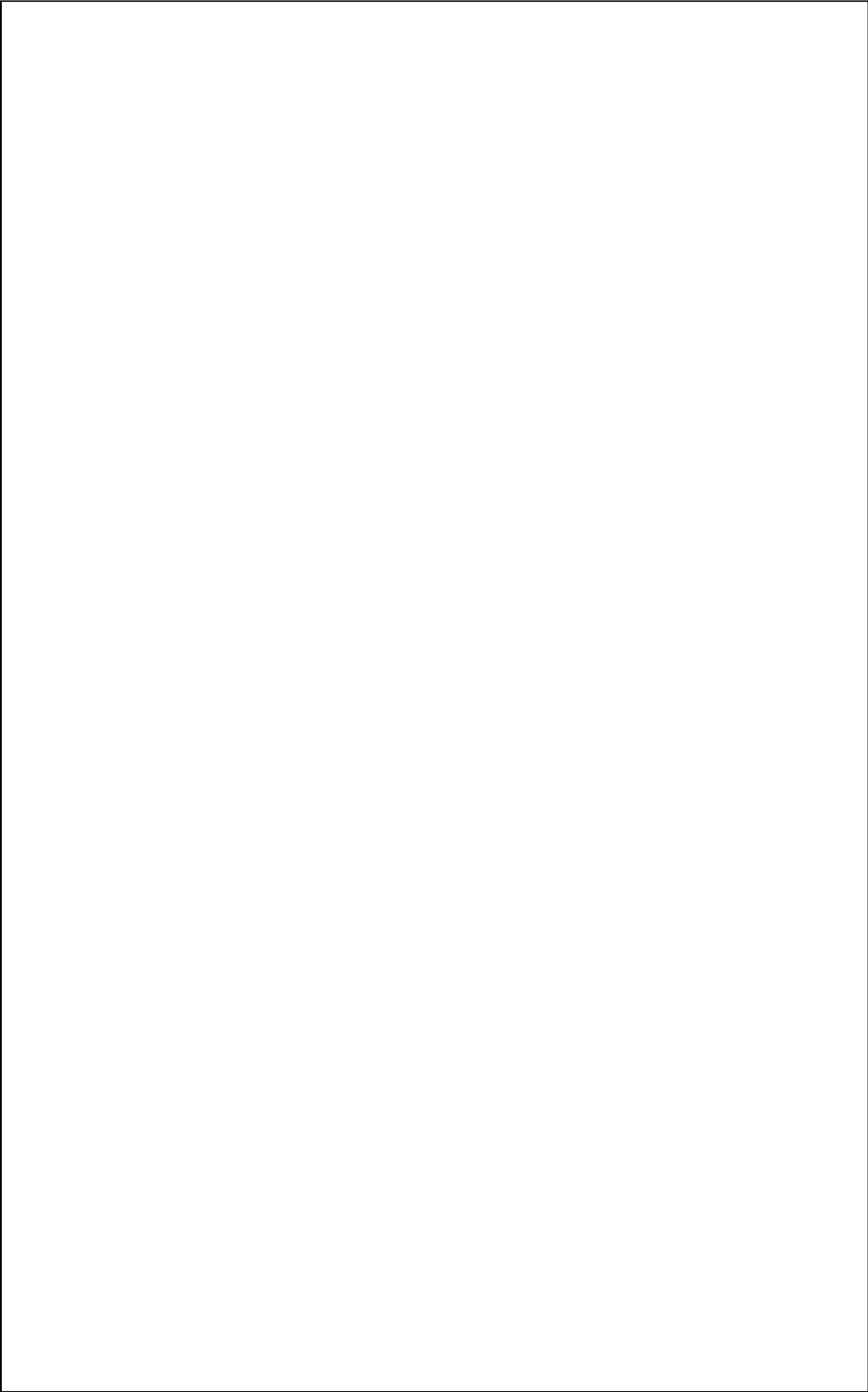
low when some of our own American politicians denounce "Palestinian violence" and express solidarity with Israel and their "security forces." Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) has introduced a bill in Congress to condemn the brutal lynching of two Israeli reservists in Ramallah, but is silent about Palestinian deaths, even though out of the over one hundred people who have died, all but seven have been Arabs.

Hillary Clinton revoked her endorsement of an eventual Palestinian state and has started to heap condemnations on the Palestinian Authority now that she's running for New York's open Senate seat. The Republican nominee for Florida's 8th Congressional District, Ric Keller, even went so far to say that "Palestinians are lower than pond scum." That sort of racist invective the Middle East can do without, and unfortunately, it's coming from us here in America.

The contribution that we as Americans should make instead is to explain that when people of diverse ethnicities trade mistrust for cooperation and understanding, great things happen. We need to ask Arabs and Jews in the Middle East to try to understand one another's hopes and fears. Israeli troops are not cracking down on Palestinian protesters because of some misguided hatred, even though I understand why it might seem that way to Palestinians on the ground. Arabs should push themselves to perceive the core issue, that one of Israel's darkest fears is not being able to live in peace and security — that's why their troops are fighting in the territories, not because of hatred.

The Jewish people deserve a safe and secure homeland, and we as Arabs and as Arab Americans should stretch to ensure that the peace process produces just that. And since many Jewish holy sites lie in areas where Palestinians live, the Palestinian Authority should do much more to let Israelis know that if their troops withdraw from those areas, their holy sites will remain safe and accessible. The failure of the Palestinian police to protect Joseph's Tomb from rioters last week sent the wrong message.

The crucial point is that by understanding



ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —



NEW LINE CINEMA

Winona Ryder stars in New Line Cinema’s supernatural thriller, *Lost Souls*.

The following movies are playing this week-end at local theaters. The Tech suggests using <<http://www.boston.com>> for a complete listing of times and locations.

- ★★★★ Excellent
- ★★★ Good
- ★★ Fair
- ★ Poor

Adventures in Wild California (★★★★)

The theme of this movie, California’s wild nature, is the direct inspiration for the spirit of adventure, exploration, and innovation — but it is the glorious visuals (sky surfing and regular surfing, snowboarding, helicopter flights) that provide real excitement. — Vladimir Zelevinsky

Almost Famous (★★★★½)

Almost Famous is the semi-autobiographical film of writer and director Cameron Crowe’s life as a 16 year-old *Rolling Stone* journalist. He follows around a band for four days and, in a bewildering, humorous, and didactic experience, understands the mantra of sex, drugs, and rock and roll. — Devdoot Majumdar

Best in Show (★★)

The latest release by mockumentary filmmaker Christopher Guest spoofs the peculiar American phenomenon of the dog show, and focuses on nine would-be blue-ribbon winners, each more absurd than the last. The most unforgivable error Guest makes is in the film’s marketing. *Best In Show* is guilty of one of the most onerous offenses of bad action flicks: it gives away its best scenes during the film’s trailer. What’s left after the jokes that everyone’s already seen is a series of unrelated and mostly offensive stereotypical scenes, the theatrical equivalent of calling people names. It is too bad that Guest, given his considerable resumé and a great setup for a film, can’t grow up enough to intelligently poke fun at a decidedly deserving subject. — Jed Horne

Billy Elliot (★★★★)

A sweet, spirited, and enjoyable (albeit sometimes clumsily rendered) movie experience. A young British boy, hypnotized by dancing, begins studying ballet, much to the chagrin of his lower-class father. The seem-

ingly obligatory political backdrop is awkward and unnecessary, but overall, it’s a heart-warming and amusing piece of light fare that recovers well from any of its missteps. Warning: thick British accents. — Karen Feigenbaum

Bring it On (★★★★)

One of the better movies of the summer merely because of its amusing banter and exaggerated characters. Stupid jokes and predictable conflicts are delivered throughout the film, but *Bring It On* doesn’t lose its cheer. Kirsten Dunst plays the captain of the Toros, a cheerleading squad that goes head-to-head with members of a Compton squad, which includes the members from R&B group Blaque. The one-liners and catty attitudes are let loose in director Peyton Reed’s silver-screen endeavor. — Solar Olugebefola

Dancer in the Dark (★★★)

Björk, Catherine Deneuve, and director/writer Lars von Trier team up in this ambitious musical. A heavy and tragic plot-collides with campy musical numbers to form a film that is better off as a drama than a musical. Björk and Deneuve’s performances are stellar, but the rest of the cast needs intense dance and vocal training in order to make a more convincing musical. The film’s music has traces of Björk’s unique electronic style, but still feels held back and pulled in different directions. Bring tissues. — Annie Choi

Dark Days (★★½)

Filmmaker Marc Singer’s first cinematic effort, follows the lives of about twenty homeless men and women living in the Amtrak tunnels under Penn Station in New York City. The film is a powerfully unique look at a group of people who are rarely depicted as more than stereotypes. Kudos to the film’s ambition, and the fascinating vignettes depicted throughout. However, *Dark Days* is ultimately unsatisfactory as a sociological study because it lacks any clear statement of purpose or vision, and over-humanizes homelessness in a patently offensive way. — JH

The Exorcist (★★★★½)

Re-released after 27 years, the new *Exor-*

cist has been received with interest; some have even named it the Scariest Movie of All Time. The main difference between this version and the version you can see on video is about eleven minutes of cut footage and some revamped sound effects. Compared to the flashy films of today, *The Exorcist* feels rather dry, but avid fans and those who have never seen the original classic should definitely check it out. — Raja Mohan

Lost Souls (★★)

From Janus Kaminski, the acclaimed cinematographer of *Schindler’s List* and *Saving Private Ryan*, comes *Lost Souls*, a generic and tasteless addition to the recent surplus of apocalypse-like films. Maya Larkin (Winona Ryder) must convince Peter Kelson (Ben Chaplin) that he’s destined to be the living embodiment of the Devil come his 33rd birthday so they can, ultimately, save the world. Though it attempts to mimic *The Exorcist* and *Rosemary’s Baby*, *Lost Souls* ultimately fails to reinvent the horror classic for the modern day audience. — Ryan Klimczak

Meet the Parents (★★★★)

From the director of *Austin Powers* comes this offbeat and original romantic comedy about hapless Greg Focker (Ben Stiller) and his attempts to impress his future father-in-law (Robert DeNiro). Pam’s (Teri Polo) father, Jack Byrnes, instantly decides that he’s unimpressed by his daughter’s husband-to-be and what follows is a disastrous family weekend during which things just keep getting worse. With laugh-out-loud humor and an endless array of gut-busting scenes, this film proves to be Stiller’s greatest success since *There’s Something about Mary*. — RK

Nurse Betty (★★)

Renee Zellweger stars in this film as the neurotic Nurse Betty, a small-town soap opera aficionado traumatized into an alternate personality. Obsessed and dedicated, she seeks out soap opera star Dr. David Ravell, played by actor George McCord (Greg Kinnear), on *A Reason to Love* under the misconception that he is her ex-fiancee. Along the way, she is followed by two hit men played by Morgan Freeman and Chris Rock, and, as this illogical

but humorous story continues, it stumbles somewhere between humorous originality and perplexing irrationality. — RK

Remember the Titans (★★★★)

This is a beautifully directed movie about the social and racial conflicts of the 1970’s. Inspired by real events, the movie examines the relationship between two football coaches, one white and one black, trying to overcome racial differences that tear the whole community apart after an all-white school and an all-black school are united. Featuring great actors and lovely music from the 70’s, this movie depicts stirring aspects of human nature. A must-see. — Bogdan Fedeles

Urbania (★★★)

Urbania tells the story of Charlie, a man introduced as having suffered a tragic loss and intent on regaining normalcy in his life. Charlie stumbles through the hyper-reality of New York City, voyeuristically obsessed with “urban legends” — peculiar vignettes which, the film argues, help us cope with reality’s capriciousness. These tales become a metaphor for Charlie’s own experience and provide a backdrop for his neurotic obsession with an ex-lover and the possibility of a redemptive relationship with a homophobic acquaintance. *Urbania* confronts some interesting issues about sexuality, revenge, and love, but its choice of a homosexual focus, while downplayed, makes it easily dismissed as a member of a genre of films that is hokey at best, even if *Urbania* itself is an exception. — JH

Urban Legends: Final Cut (★)

A disappointing sequel to the original *Urban Legends* movie, this film provides an unorthodox approach to its forerunner as film student Amy Mayfield (Jennifer Morrison) directs her thesis film on a murderer who kills people based on urban legends. At the same time, a psychopath is killing her crew in the same format as her movie, leading Mayfield on an unexpected — and confusing — trail to unmask the killer before she too becomes an urban legend. Directed by John Ottman, *Urban Legends II: Final Cut* proves to be a cheesy and overdone addition to the teen-horror genre. — RK

Clubs

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437

Sundays: See Avalon below.
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Spin Cycle*. Progressive house, 80's. \$12, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424

Sundays: *Gay Night* with Axis. Three different dance floors featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.
Thursdays: *International Night*. Eurohouse. \$10, 19+.
Fridays: *Avaland*. House. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

Karma Club
9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595

Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's bar, modern dance music. \$10.
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.
Fridays: *Pure*. Drum and bass, guest DJ. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

ManRay
21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400

Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes + House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$7, 21+.
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday. 19+. Includes Goth music.) *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/house + New Wave. \$15, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

Axis
Next: 423-NEXT
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437

Oct. 22: At the Drive-In.
Oct. 25: Virtuoso. Local hip-hop artists. Featuring Iyadonna & Clinton Sparks, 7L & Esoteric, Skitzofreniks, Shuman, Reks, Elliot Ness, and Ray Barboza.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424

Oct. 20: Soulive.
Oct. 21: Shaggy.
Oct. 22: The Beautiful South.
Oct. 24: The Gregg Allman Band.
Oct. 25: Hootie & the Blowfish.
Oct. 26: BBMak.
Oct. 28: Elliot Smith.
Oct. 29: Miguel Migs, Kid Koala, P-Love, Slum Village, Bahamadia.
Nov. 4: Sammy Hagar.
Nov. 5: 311.
Nov. 7: Rancid.
Nov. 18: They Might Be Giants.
Nov. 28: The Saw Doctors.

Berklee Performance Center
Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info, on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 747-8820.

Oct. 21: George Winston.
Oct. 25: Yiannis Parios.
Oct. 26: Keb Mo.
Oct. 27: Sonny Rollins.
Oct. 28: Klezmer Conservatory Band.
Nov. 10: Whispers.
Nov. 18: Plena Libre.

Club Passim
47 Palmer St, Cambridge, 618-492-7679.

Call for schedule.
Tuesdays: Open Mic at 8 p.m. (sign up at 7:30). \$5.

The Lizard Lounge
1667 Mass Ave., 617-547-0759.
21+

Wednesdays: Baby Ray.
Thursdays: Club d'Elf.

The Middle East
Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Ticket prices vary. Call 354-8238 for more info.

Oct. 20: Free Heat (Featuring Jim Reid of Jesus and Mary Chain) with Thought Industry.
Oct. 20: Sunny Day Real Estate with Euphone and Tugboat Annie opening.
Oct. 21: Gil Scott Heron.
Oct. 21: Three Day Threshol.
Oct. 21: Uncle Sammy with Fox-trot Zulu and Soup.
Oct. 22: Robyn Hitchcock and Grant Lee Phillips.
Oct. 22: Tristeza with Helms, Mercury Program and the Head Set (formerly the Shyness Clinic).

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
October 20 – 28
Compiled by Fred Choi

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

Oct. 23: The Faint with Runner and Thermo Dynamics.
Oct. 24: Fear with Sinners and Saints, Lost City Angels.
Oct. 24: Neko Case and her Boyfriends with Kelly Hogan and the Pine Valley Cosmonauts.
Oct. 25: Southern Culture on the Skids with Cash Monies and the Jet Setter.
Oct. 25: Sunday's Best with The Movies and Paris Texas.
Oct. 26: X-Ecutioners with Souls of Mischief.
Oct. 27: Addison Groove Project.
Oct. 28: Tobin Sprout with Richard Davies.
Oct. 29: Toxic Narcotic with Big Bubba, The Profits, A Global Threat and Short Lived.
Oct. 31: 13 Crimson Ghosts and The Hangmen and Photon Torpedoes.
Oct. 31: J. Mascis.
Nov. 2: Dread Zeppelin (ska cover band).

Orpheum Theatre
Ticketmaster: 931-2000

Oct. 25: Omara Poruondo. A vocalist presented by The Buena Vista Social Club. With guest Barbarito Torres, one of Cuba's greatest lute players.
Oct. 26, 27: Ani DiFranco.

Sanders Theatre
617-496-2222
45 Quincy St., 02138

Nov. 1: The Whirling Dervishes.
Nov. 10: Natalie MacMaster.
Nov. 25: Capitol Steps.

T.T. the Bear's Place
10 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-492-BEAR

Oct. 20: Toshak Highway.
Oct. 21: The Pills with opening bands Nada Surf, the Details and U.S. Crush.
Oct. 27: Star Ghost Dog.
Oct. 30: Adfrank.

Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts (Great Woods)
885 South Main St., Mansfield, Ticketmaster: 931-2000

Nov. 16: Pantera with Kittle, Morbid Angel, \$29.50.
Nov. 21: Deftones, \$24.50.

Jazz Music

Regattabar
Concertix: 876-7777
1 Bennett St., Cambridge 02138, 617-662-5000

Oct. 20: Edu Tancredi y el Brandon 33.
Oct. 21: Johnny Nocturne Band.
Oct. 25: George Schuller and the Schulldogs.
Oct. 27: Roomful of Blues.
Oct. 29: Teresa Ines Trio.

Scullers Jazz Club
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111

Oct. 21: Richie Havens.
Oct. 24: Abby Rabinovitz.
Oct. 25: Larry Watson.
Oct. 26-27: John Pizzarelli.
Oct. 29: Carol Oshaughnessy.
Oct. 31-Nov. 1: La Orquesta Aragon.
Nov. 2-3: Chuck Mangione.
Nov. 5: Metro Featuring Chuck Loeb.

Classical Music

Collage New Music

Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at the C. Walsh Theater of Suffolk University, 55 Temple Street, just behind the State House on Beacon Hill. Featuring the world premiere of John



CATAPULT RECORDS

Star Ghost Dog hit T.T. the Bear's Place next week. Call 492-BEAR for more information.

Harbison's Mottetti di Montale, complete version for chamber ensemble and mezzo-soprano, as well as Luciano Berio's Sequenza II, for harp, and Luigi Dallapiccola's Piccola Musica Notturna. MIT students can attend Collage concerts free of charge. Details on access to tickets can be found at: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/collage_new_music.html>. For ticket information for this concert and the entire season, contact the Collage New Music business office at 617-325-5200. Or visit their website at <www.collagenew-music.org>.

Carmina Burana
Nov. 3 at 3 p.m. at the Sanders Theater (45 Quincy st., Cambridge). Presented by the Boston Camerata, Joel cohen Music Director, and members of the Harvard University Choir, Dr. Murray Forbes Somerville, Director. Tickets are \$42, \$38, and \$35 and are available by calling The Harvard Box Office at 617-496-2222 (Mon-Sun, Noon-6pm), by visiting the Harvard Box Office at 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, or online at <www.celebrityseries.org>.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 266-1492.
Performances at Symphony Hall, Boston, MA unless otherwise noted.

For MIT Students: Tickets are offered for Th. evening concerts (8pm) and Fri. afternoon concerts (1:30pm) and are available on the day of the concert only at the BSO Box Office at Symphony Hall (301 Mass. Ave. Open 10am-6pm). Two tickets may be obtained with two current valid MIT student IDs, subject to availability. For updated MIT student ticket availability, call 638-9478 after 10am on the day of concert.

Oct. 21 at 8 p.m., Oct. 20 at 1:30

p.m.: Stravinsky: Concerto for Piano and Winds; Saariaho: Chateau de l'ame, for soprano, eight female voices and orchestra; Beethoven: Symphony No. 4. Ilan Volkov, conductor; Olli Mustonen, piano; Valdine Anderson, soprano; Members of Emmanuel Music, Michael Beattie, Chorus Master. Pre-performance talk given by Robert Kirzinger. Call for ticket prices.

Nov. 2, 3, 4, 7 at 8 p.m.: Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23 in A, K.488, Mahler: Symphony No. 5. Christoph Eschenbach, conductor and piano. Pre-performance talk given by Barbara Barry. Call for ticket prices.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble
Nov. 5 at 4 p.m. at the First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough Street in Boston's Back Bay (Arlington Stop on the Green Line): The Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston presents chamber music by Francis Poulenc, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Johannes Brahms. Tickets \$28, \$20, \$14, discounts available for students and seniors. For tickets or more information, call 617-427-8200 or visit <<http://www.chameleonarts.org>>.

Brahms Violin Sonatas
Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St, Cambridge. Eric Rosenblith, violin performs all three violin sonatas by Johannes Brahms. With pianist Heng-Jin Park, an affiliated artist in the MIT music department. Free. For more information, call 617-876-0956 or visit <www.longy.edu>.

Dracula: The Music and Film

Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Philip Glass and the Kronos Quartet perform live music to a presentation of the 1931 classic film starring Bela Lugosi. At the Orpheum Theater (1 Hamilton Pl., Boston). Tickets \$50, \$35, and \$25. Call 876-4275 to order.

Theater

Nocturne
Through Oct. 29 (Tue.-Sat. 8 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 2 p.m., Sun. 7 p.m.). At the Hasty Pudding Theater, 12 Holyoke St., Cambridge. Adam Rapp's complex family drama opens the American Repertory Theatre's fall season. Tickets \$59-\$25. Call 617-547-8300 for more information. Or visit <www.amrep.org>.

Comedy Connection
Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston showcases big-name, national comedians on weekends and up-and-coming local talent during the week. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$10-\$8 (weekend prices vary). Call 248-9700 for more information and a complete schedule.

Sun. Oct. 22, 29 at 9:15 p.m.: Black Comedy Explosion, hosted by Jonathan Gates.

Sat. Oct. 20, 8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., Sun. Oct. 21, 7 p.m., Dom Irrera Comedy Central's "Off-sides".

Sat. Oct. 27, 8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., Sun. Oct. 28, 7 p.m.: Jim Breuer of "Saturday Night Live" and "Half Baked".

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston, indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, at 7 and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 3 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$35 to \$45. Call 426-6912 for tickets and information on how to see the show for free by ushering.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston (426-5225), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$30-34.

Exhibits

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston, 02115, (617) 266-5152 (Hynes Convention Center T-stop). Features a wide variety of contemporary conceptual art with shows which emphasize artists from outside the United States. Admission \$6 adults, \$4 students and seniors, free to children under 12 and members. Admission free on Thursday evenings. Wheelchair accessible.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston. (566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on weekends), \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (267-9300). Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$10, \$8 for students and seniors, children under 17 free; \$2 after 5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri., free Wed. after 4 p.m.

Mon.-Fri.: introductory walks through all collections begin at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; "Asian, Egyptian, and Classical Walks" begin at 11:30 a.m.; "American Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 12:30 p.m.; "European Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 2:30 p.m.; Introductory tours are also offered Sat. at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Permanent Gallery Installations: "Late Gothic Gallery," featuring a restored 15th-century stained glass window from Hampton Court, 14th- and 15th-century stone, alabaster, and polychrome wood sculptures from France and the Netherlands; "Mummy Mask Gallery," a newly renovated Egyptian gallery, features primitive masks dating from as far back as 2500 B.C.; "European Decorative Arts from 1950 to the Present"; "John Singer Sargent: Studies for MFA and Boston Public Library Murals."

Gallery lectures are free with museum admission.

Museum of Our National Heritage

33 Marrett Rd., Lexington, 02421. (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Admission and parking free. <<http://www.mnh.org>>

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston. (723-2500). Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors.

The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-Yourself Exhibit"; "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion"; "Seeing Is Deceiving."

Ongoing: "Everest: Roof of the World"; "Living on the Edge." Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors. Now showing: "Laser Depeche Mode," Sun., 8 p.m.; "Laser Offspring," Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; "Laser Rush," Sun., 9:15; "Laser Beastie Boys," Thurs.-Sat., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Floyd's Wall," Fri.-Sat., 10:30 p.m.; "Friday Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30 p.m.; "Welcome to the Universe," daily; "Quest for Contact: Are We Alone?" daily.

Commonwealth Museum

220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, 02125. Located across from the JFK Library. Hours: M-F 9-5, S 9-3. Admission is Free. For more info. or to arrange a tour, call 617-727-9268.

Other Events

Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey

Through Oct. 22. "The Greatest Show on Earth" is returning to the FleetCenter. Fun for the whole family! \$37 (VIP), \$25, \$16, and \$11. Call Ticketmaster 931-2000.

Film Festivals

At the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 02115. For tickets and more information, call 369-3770. Tickets for each showing are \$7, \$6 MFA members, seniors, students, unless otherwise noted.

Best Commercials of 1999
Located in Remis Auditorium. Tickets \$7, \$8.

British Advertising Films of 1999

Oct. 20, 21, 27, 28: (80 min.). Now in its 24th year, this annual collection of television ads reveals the British to be the true masters of the advertising film.

World's Best Commercials of the Century

Oct. 20, 21, 27, 28: (86 min.). An homage to the age of consumerism, this program celebrates the best of the best: those ads creative enough to communicate an idea, and powerful enough to provoke emotion. Broken into five sections, World's Best runs the gamut from racy to cheeky to downright sincere. Overall, the program offers an insightful glimpse into the ever-changing history of this omnipresent medium.

Fred's Pick of the Week

Boston Faces

"A visual rendering of Boston through the art of portraiture." Through Oct. 28 at the Boston Public Library, Copley Square. Local artist Channing Thieme presents a fascinating exhibit comprising four-year's of portraits of Boston's inhabitants. The skillful portraits, mostly in pencil but some in ink, encompass a wide range of people of all races and occupations, including a homeless woman, a restaurant owner, a construction worker, an artist, a dominatrix, and a student. Free.

October
20, 2000

COMICS

The
Tech

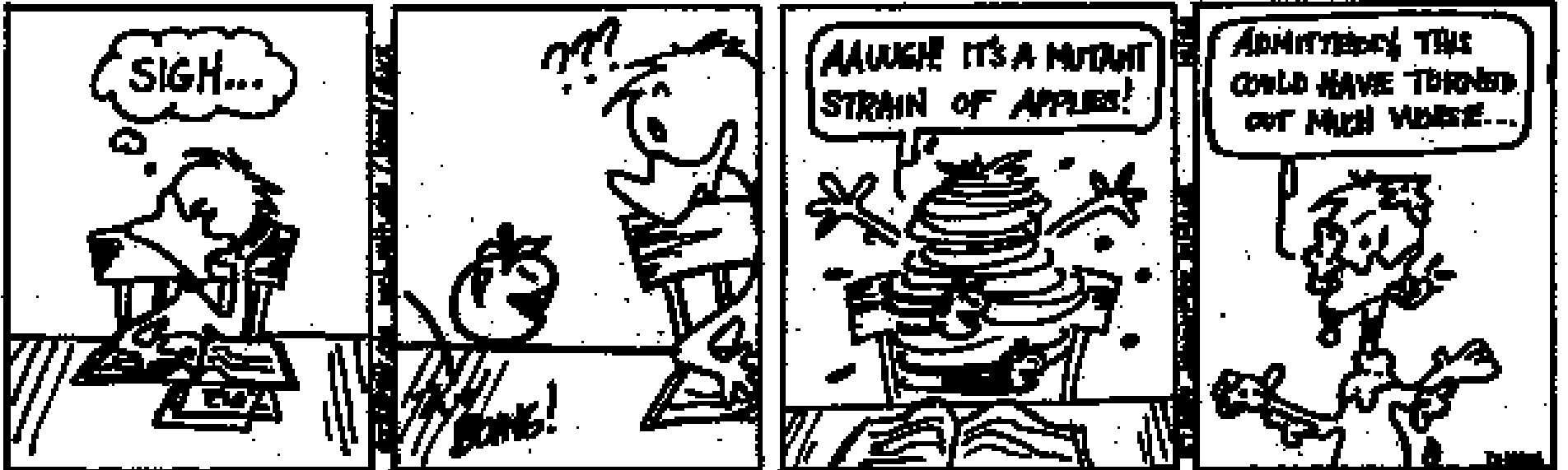
FUN

Page
9

PAGES

Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase



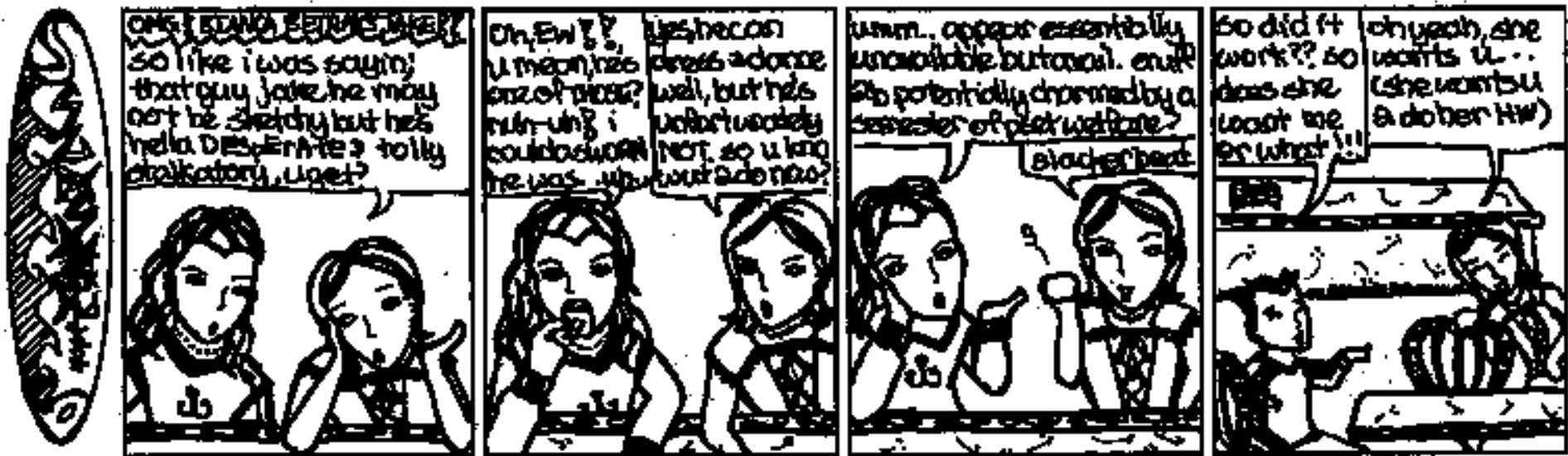
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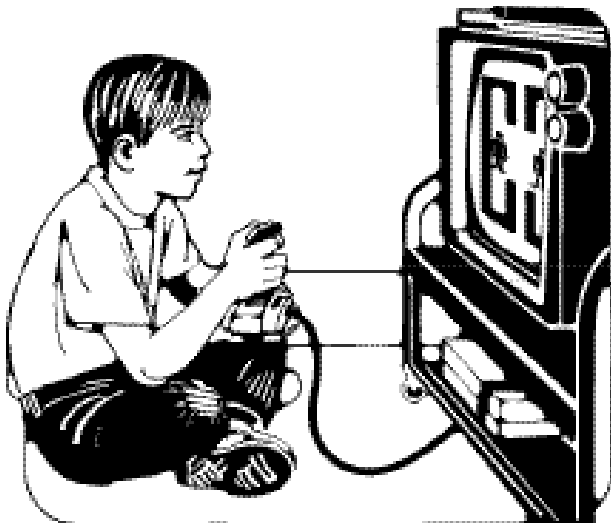
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By Guan-Jong (John) Chen
Tech
Life



Fun With Clip Art
Aaron Isaksen



"When the girls at school hear about how I got to the 15th board of Level 22 they are so going to wanna suck my cock."

Crossword
Puzzle

Dilbert® _____ by Scott Adams

FoxTrot _____ by Bill Amend

TechCalendar

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

Friday, October 20

01 a.m. 00 a.m. – **Reflections in Dreamscape II.** Series of pastel paintings by Changhuei Yang (G), based on a painting trip to Lyme Regis, a small sea town on the south coast of England. free. Room: Wiesner Student Art Gallery (2nd floor Student Ctr). Sponsor: Campus Activities Complex.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Mary A. Harman: Breaking the Mold.** A series of images using multiple print processes to explore issues of women’s individuality and saneness. free. Room: Rm E52-466 . Sponsor: Sloan School of Management.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Peace Through Humor: Visions of Peace from the Hands of Children.** Exhibition of paintings, hosted by MIT Hillel. Curated by Maureen Kushner. free. Room: W11, Religious Activities Ctr, 40 Amherst St. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton.** An interactive exhibition celebrating the life and work of MIT legend Harold . \$5; \$2 students/seniors; \$1 children 5-18; free with MIT ID. Room: MIT Museum, N52 2nd floor. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. – **Overview of Purchasing on the Web.** This demo integrates all aspects of using SAPweb for purchasing including requisitioning external vendors, internal providers and preferred partners. In this session we will introduce the SAPweb requisitioning form, the new online catalogs and purchasing procedures for buying from preferred partner vendors, including Office Depot, VWR,BOC Gases and NECX. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. – **Position Effects in Yeast, Using Whole-genome RNA Expression Data.** free. Room: Room 2-135. Sponsor: Molecular Biology Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. – **“Global Optimization: Algorithms, Software, and Applications”.** Weekly seminar series open to the public. Reception before seminar at 2:45 p.m. in 66-110. free. Room: 66-110. Sponsor: Chemical Engineering.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – **Statistics for the (q,t)-Catalan Numbers.** Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in room 2-349. free. Room: Room 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **MITSFS weekly ‘meetings’.** While these are, technically, meetings, it is nigh-forbidden to conduct Real Business at them, as they’re really social events. Imaginary Business, however, is allowed. Usually a dinner trip follows. free. Room: MITSFS Library, W20-473. Sponsor: Science Fiction Society, MIT.

6:00 p.m. 00 a.m. – **Tech Songs, 1903.** Institute Archives and Special Collections: Object of the Month illustrates how MIT students of 100 years ago found a common bond and an outlet for frustration in songs about undergraduate life. free. Room: Hallway exhibit case across from Rm 14N-118. Sponsor: Institute Archives and Special Collections.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – **“Faith and Public Policy”.** Prof. Glenn was in charge of urban education and civil rights in Massachusetts for 21 years, is one of the leading supporters of educational vouchers, and is vice-president of OIDEL, an international organization working for educational freedom. free. Room: Student Center West Lounge (W20-201). Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – **Mars Week @ MIT 2000 Kick-off.** Mars Week 2000 gets started with talk by these speakers: ++ Dr. Robert Zubrin - Pioneer Astronautics, Int’l Mars Society President ++ Dr. Pascal Lee - Planetary Scientist, NASA Houghton-Mars Project ++ Leonard David - Space Journalist, Space.com. See webpage for more information. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Think Mars, AeroAstro, Mars Society. Venturefuge, Boulder Center for Science and Policy, MIT Large Events Fund.

7:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents Timecode.** Friday, November 17 at 7 & 10 pm, and Sunday, November 19 at 7 pm. 26-100. Selma Hayek, Stellan Skarsgård, Holly Hunter. How often do you see a movie that really changes the experience of watching one? Filmed in one 93-minute take simultaneously on four digital cameras, Timecode is presented unedited in four quadrants on the screen. Itis the black comedy of a Hollywood production company making a movie called Bitch from Louisiana. Wannabe starlet Rose (Hayek) tells her lover Lauren (Jeanne Tripplehorne) sheis trying out for a role, while sheis secretly carrying out an affair with producer Alex (Skarsgård). Meanwhile, Alexis wife is having a nervous breakdown, as is his business partner (Hunter). Lestor Moore, a director, is trying to find a cast for the followup to his hit Yo Grandma. A technological masterpiece, Timecode may be a glimpse at the future of filmmaking. Comedy. Rated R for drug use, sexuality, language and a scene of violence. 97 minutes. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – **Who Wants to Win Just about Anything but a Million Dollars (WWW).** Junk Food for the Soul: Pop Culture Trivia. MIT Students only (and their families). free. Room: MIT Museum, 265 Mass Ave. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

8:00 p.m. – **Family Weekend Concert: A Celebration of American Music.** MIT Wind Ensemble, MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble (Fred Harris, music director);MIT Concert Choir (William Cutter, director); MIT String Chamber Orchestra, (Dante Anzolini, music director). Works by Copland, Bernstein, Joplin, Ellington and others. It will include music for choir, brass, percussion, ragtime, wind ensembles and strings. free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Music Section.

8:00 p.m. – **Roadkill Buffet.** Fast-paced improvised comedy from the new and improved Roadkill Buffet featuring five new members. Bring ten friends to this show and you will have good luck forever.. When Walter Smith of Peoria, IL failed to do this, his wife left him and his arm was run over by a steamroller. free. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Roadkill Buffet.

10:00 p.m. – **LSC Classics Presents Dirty Harry.** Clint Eastwood. You don’t assign him to cases — you just turn him loose. It’s all in a day’s work for Dirty Harry (Eastwood), a plainclothesman with the San Francisco police, and for his new partner, Chico. A bank robbery and an attempted suicide form the prelude to the main event: catching a skillful sniper who is murdering the innocent while holding a city to ransom. Catching him becomes a war between good and evil — with the protagonists on both sides shown as ruthless, bitter and merciless products of a violent society. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

10:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents Timecode.** Friday, November 17 at 7 & 10 pm, and Sunday, November 19 at 7 pm. 26-100. Selma Hayek, Stellan Skarsgård, Holly Hunter. How often do you see a movie that really changes the experience of watching one? Filmed in one 93-minute take simultaneously on four digital cameras, Timecode is presented unedited in four quadrants on the screen. Itis the black comedy of a Hollywood production company making a movie called Bitch from Louisiana. Wannabe starlet Rose (Hayek) tells her lover Lauren (Jeanne Tripplehorne) sheis trying out for a role, while sheis secretly carrying out an affair with producer Alex (Skarsgård). Meanwhile, Alexis wife is having a nervous breakdown, as is his business partner (Hunter). Lestor Moore, a director, is trying to find a cast for the followup to his hit Yo Grandma. A technological masterpiece, Timecode may be a glimpse at the future of filmmaking. Comedy. Rated R for drug use, sexuality, language and a scene of violence. 97 minutes. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, October 21

01 a.m. 00 a.m. – **Reflections in Dreamscape II.** Series of pastel paintings by Changhuei Yang (G), based on a painting trip to Lyme Regis, a small sea town on the south coast of England. free. Room: Wiesner Student Art Gallery (2nd floor Student Ctr). Sponsor: Campus Activities Complex.

9:00 a.m. – **HEAD OF THE CHARLES.** free. Room: B.U. Bridge. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Mars Week @ MIT 2000, Day 2.** We have a number of great speakers lined up for Saturday, including: ++ Dr. David McKay - NASA Johnson Space Center, “Life in the martian meteorites” ++ Peter Ahlf - Coordinator for Life Science’s Payload and Goals for Mars,NASA HQ ++ Dr. George Martin - Flight Surgeon, US Air Force ++ Michael Carroll - renowned space artist ++ Dr. Ken Corey - Greenhouses, Early Mars Agriculture ++ Peter Kinsman - Hamilton Sundstrand, Developing a prototype Mars suit This will also be your last chance to register for the banquet to be held Saturday evening. See webpage for more information. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Think Mars, AeroAstro, Mars Society. Venturefuge, Boulder Center for Science and Policy, MIT Large Events Fund.

10:00 a.m. – **Women’s Soccer vs. Wellesley College.** free. Room: Steinbrenner. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton.** An interactive exhibition celebrating the life and work of MIT legend Harold (. \$5; \$2 students/seniors; \$1 children 5-18; free with MIT ID. Room: MIT Museum. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

1:30 p.m. – **Football vs. Worcester State College.** Steinbrenner Stadium. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

6:00 p.m. 00 a.m. – **Tech Songs, 1903.** Institute Archives and Special Collections: Object of the Month illustrates how MIT students of 100 years ago found a common bond and an outlet for frustration in songs about undergraduate life. free. Room: Hallway exhibit case across from Rm 14N-118. Sponsor: Institute Archives and Special Collections.

6:00 p.m. – **Odissi Indian Classical Dance Lecture/Performance.** Ms. Aruna Mohanty, world

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

renowned Odissi dancer and winner of the prestigious “Mahiri Award” in 1997 given by the Guru Pankaj Charan Odissi Research Foundation in India. free. Room: World Music Studio (Bldg N-51). Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Sangam.

7:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents Me, Myself, & Irene.** Saturday, October 21 at 7 & 10 pm, and Sunday, October 22 at 10 pm. 26-100. Jim Carrey, RenEe Zellweger. Jim Carrey is Charlie, a Rhode Island State Trouper. Though heis normally mild-mannered and laid back, when heis pushed too far, his alternate personality Hank takes over ó and Hank is anything but calm. Charlieís assigned a routine trip to escort the fugitive Irene (Zellweger) back to upstate New York, but they somehow end up on the run from the cops. That would be a lot easier, though, if Hank didnit keep popping up at the most inopportune times ó and if he wasnit falling for Irene. Comedy. Rated R for sexual content, crude humor, strong language and some violence. 116 minutes. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. – **Family Weekend A Cappella Concert.** Traditional annual concert in which the Chorallaries of MIT (coed), the MIT/Wellesley Toons (coed), the Logarhythms (men), the Muses (women), and the Cross Products (Christian) perform for loving, adoring parents and other attendees. free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Parents Association.

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Sunday, October 22

01 a.m. 00 a.m. – **Reflections in Dreamscape II.** Series of pastel paintings by Changhuei Yang (G), based on a painting trip to Lyme Regis, a small sea town on the south coast of England. free. Room: Wiesner Student Art Gallery (2nd floor Student Ctr). Sponsor: Campus Activities Complex.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Mars Week @ MIT 2000, Final Day.** Sunday will start off with talks by these great speakers: ++ Donna Shirley - Manager Mars Exploration Program (Retired), MarsMillennium Project ++ Dr. Robert Zubrin - Pioneer Astronautics, Int’l Mars Society President ++ Dr. Chris McKay - NASA Ames Research Center, world renowned astrobiologistThe conference will then break-out into a number of workshops, a Mars carnival, and a number of educational displays.It should be a great time for all. See webpage for more information. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Think Mars, AeroAstro, Mars Society. Venturefuge, Boulder Center for Science and Policy, MIT Large Events Fund.

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton.** An interactive exhibition celebrating the life and work of MIT legend Harold (. \$5; \$2 students/seniors; \$1 children 5-18; free with MIT ID. Room: MIT Museum. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

6:00 p.m. 00 a.m. – **Tech Songs, 1903.** Institute Archives and Special Collections: Object of the Month illustrates how MIT students of 100 years ago found a common bond and an outlet for frustration in songs about undergraduate life. free. Room: Hallway exhibit case across from Rm 14N-118. Sponsor: Institute Archives and Special Collections.

7:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents Timecode.** Friday, November 17 at 7 & 10 pm, and Sunday, November 19 at 7 pm. 26-100. Selma Hayek, Stellan Skarsgård, Holly Hunter. How often do you see a movie that really changes the experience of watching one? Filmed in one 93-minute take simultaneously on four digital cameras, Timecode is presented unedited in four quadrants on the screen. Itis the black comedy of a Hollywood production company making a movie called Bitch from Louisiana. Wannabe starlet Rose (Hayek) tells her lover Lauren (Jeanne Tripplehorne) sheis trying out for a role, while sheis secretly carrying out an affair with producer Alex (Skarsgård). Meanwhile, Alexis wife is having a nervous breakdown, as is his business partner (Hunter). Lestor Moore, a director, is trying to find a cast for the followup to his hit Yo Grandma. A technological masterpiece, Timecode may be a glimpse at the future of filmmaking. Comedy. Rated R for drug use, sexuality, language and a scene of violence. 97 minutes. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

10:00 p.m. – **LSC Presents Me, Myself, & Irene.** Saturday, October 21 at 7 & 10 pm, and Sunday, October 22 at 10 pm. 26-100. Jim Carrey, RenEe Zellweger. Jim Carrey is Charlie, a Rhode Island State Trouper. Though heis normally mild-mannered and laid back, when heis pushed too far, his alternate personality Hank takes over ó and Hank is anything but calm. Charlieís assigned a routine trip to escort the fugitive Irene (Zellweger) back to upstate New York, but they somehow end up on the run from the cops. That would be a lot easier, though, if Hank didnit keep popping up at the most inopportune times ó and if he wasnit falling for Irene. Comedy. Rated R for sexual content, crude humor, strong language and some violence. 116 minutes. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Monday, October 23

01 a.m. 00 a.m. – **Reflections in Dreamscape II.** Series of pastel paintings by Changhuei Yang (G), based on a painting trip to Lyme Regis, a small sea town on the south coast of England. free. Room: Wiesner Student Art Gallery (2nd floor Student Ctr). Sponsor: Campus Activities Complex.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Mary A. Harman: Breaking the Mold.** A series of images using multiple print processes to explore issues of women’s individuality and saneness. free. Room: Rm E52-466 . Sponsor: Sloan School of Management.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **Peace Through Humor: Visions of Peace from the Hands of Children.** Exhibition of paintings, hosted by MIT Hillel. Curated by Maureen Kushner. free. Room: W11, Religious Activities Ctr, 40 Amherst St. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – **Genes, Personality, Sex and Religion”.** free. Room: E25-401. Sponsor: Wurtman Lab.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – **MacOS Quick Start.** Get started with managing Macintosh applications, files, and folders efficiently. Obtain an overview of new features provided by the newest Mac operating system. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. – **Arts Colloquium.** MIT faculty and arts staff are invited to hear Prof. Joan Jonas, Visual Arts Program speak on her work. Lunch will be served; reservations required by Oct 18. free. Room: TBA. Sponsor: Associate Provost for the Arts.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **“Building the Fence”: On Medical Segregation and Racial Segregation.** STS Colloquium. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **Tangible Bits: Designing the Boundary Between People, Bits, and Atoms.** People have developed sophisticated skills for sensing and manipulating our physical environments. However, most of these skills are not employed by traditional Graphical User Interface (GUI). Tangible Bits, Dr. Ishii’s vision of Human Computer Interaction (HCI), seeks to build upon these skills by giving physical form to digital information, making bits directly manipulable by human hands, and perceptible through peripheral senses. In this talk, Dr. Ishii will present a variety of tangible user interfaces the Tangible Media Group has designed and presented in the past four years. free. Room: Media Lab, Bartos Theater, 20 Ames Street, Cambridge. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – **“Stringy Geometry and Topology of Orbifolds”.** This is an expository lecture on an emerging new subject, which we call “Stringy geometry and topology of orbifolds.” This subject has its origin in orbifold string theory. But this talk will be a mathematical talk. In the beginning, we will briefly talk about physical motivation and its mathematical implication. We will spend the most of time to lay out some of the foundation of this subject such as twisted sector, discrete torsion, orbifold cohomology, orbifold K-theory, orbifold quantum cohomology. Many examples will be discussed. In the end, we will discuss many conjectures and problems motivated by orbifold string theory. free. Room: Room 2-146. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar. M.I.T. Department of Mathematics.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **“Building the Fence”: On Medical Segregation and Racial Segregation.** STS Colloquium. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS.

6:00 p.m. 00 a.m. – **Tech Songs, 1903.** Institute Archives and Special Collections: Object of the Month illustrates how MIT students of 100 years ago found a common bond and an outlet for frustration in songs about undergraduate life. free. Room: Hallway exhibit case across from Rm 14N-118. Sponsor: Institute Archives and Special Collections.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – **WORD AND UTOPIA (Preview).** A recreation of the life and work of Antonio Vieira, the renown Luso-Brazilian preacher, inspired principally in Vieira’s sermons. Shot in Brazil, Portugal and the Vatican. Directed by Manoel de Oliveira. With Lima Duarte, Luis Miguel Cintra, Ricardo Trepa, Miguel Guilherme and Leonor Silveira. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Portuguese Student Association, International Film Club. Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University.



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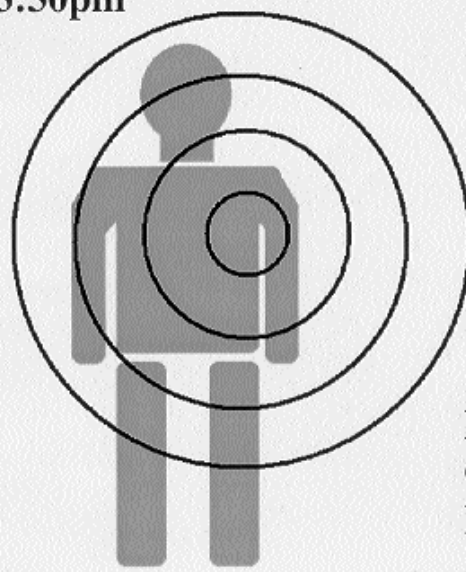
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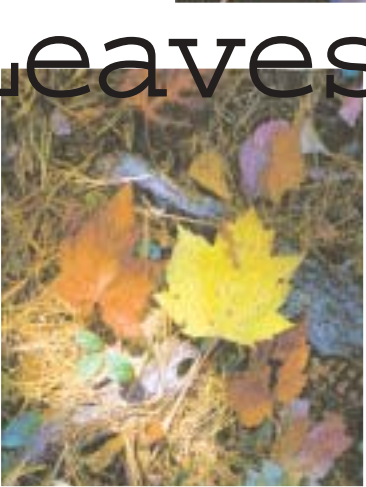
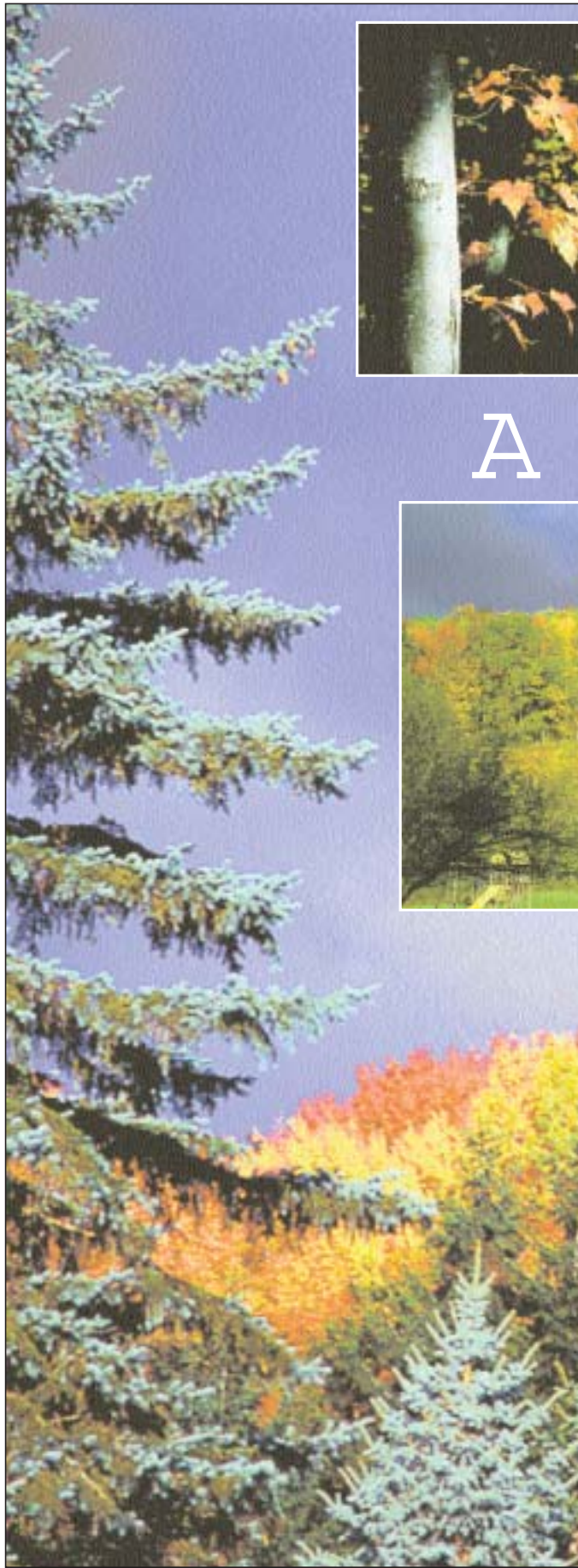
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"The Rebuilding of the Global Telecom Infrastructure"
Seth Lloyd,
"The Future of Quantum Computation"
George Barbastathis,
"Optical Imaging Enriched by Shannon's Information"
Sanjay Sarma,
"Bits, Bytes and Boxes: Networking the Physical World"
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"The Shape of Space Explorer Robots in the Year 2040"
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Question Addresses Mass. Redistricting

Proposition Would Update Districts Earlier

This article is the first of a series providing information about the eight propositions up for vote this year in Massachusetts.
By Michael J. Ring
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Question 1 may be the first question to appear on this year's ballot, but it will be last on the mind of most voters.



If enacted, the proposed constitutional amendment would change Massachusetts' redistricting schedule for certain offices.

Currently, Massachusetts' 160 state representative districts, 40 state senate districts, and eight governor's council districts are redrawn every ten years and take effect four years after the federal census. Question 1 accelerates the redistricting process so that the process takes only 2 years. Thus, if Question 1 passes, new representative, senatorial, and governor's councillor districts will be drawn for the 2002 election rather than the 2004 election.

This change would bring the timetable for redistricting state offices in line with the schedule used for drawing new federal congressional districts.

With passionate battles being waged over the future of taxes, tolls, and greyhound racing, the relatively mundane issue of redistricting addressed by Question 1 has failed to attract media attention.

In fact, no committees have been organized either to support or oppose

Question 1, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office did not receive a statement from Question 1 opponents for publication in the official voter information guide.

State Representative Thomas L. Petrolati (D-Ludlow), chairman of the House Redistricting Committee and author of the voter guide statement supporting Question 1, cites fairness and the potential of a legal challenge over current law as reasons for adopting the amendment. Petrolati and other supporters of Question 1 state that adopting the amendment would insure that residents of fast-growing parts of the state, such as Cape Cod and the South Shore, would have represen-

*The relatively
mundane issue of
redistricting
addressed by Question
1 has failed to attract
media attention.*

tation commensurate with the population growth in those areas.

Additionally, Question 1 proponents argue the current four-year delay in redistricting may violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Federal Constitution and become the subject of a lawsuit. "Vote 'yes' in order to insure equal representation and avoid unnecessary and costly lawsuits," Petrolati said.



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Panelists Speak at Forum on Violence

Story Recounts Horror of Domestic Abuse

By W. S. Wang
STAFF REPORTER

The startling realities of rape and violence against women were discussed Tuesday evening as part of Domestic Violence Week at MIT. The Campus Police, the campus group Stop Our Silence, and the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center offered statistics and personal stories showing students that these problems often go unnoticed and unreported.

Sergeant Mary Beth Riley of the Campus Police Sensitive Crimes Investigations Unit dispelled the myth that only strangers committed rapes, saying “over 60 percent [of rapes] occur with people who know each other.”

Riley urged everyone to trust the “flight or fight” syndromes of “goosebumps and prickly hair in the back of the neck.” She especially stressed the importance of being aware of the urban surroundings with “many homeless shelters and circus trains full of emotionally disturbed individuals” because MIT students tend to be “oblivious to the rest of the world.”

Riley said that “a very small percentage of cases get reported” at MIT due to the “unbelievably traumatic experience” with rape kits and stringent reporting required to the government. However, she hastened to add that friends should always “believe what they say and get them to deal with the right people.”

Woman tells trauma of rape

A focal point of the evening was a personal account of rape by Alison Deseife of BARCC.

She was raped by her ex-boyfriend, one of the most popular people in her high school. Deseife said that despite her physical suffering of a bruised breast and massive bleeding, what hurts her most is that her attacker could never understand her pain.

“He moved on with no jail time, nothing on his record, and an one-sentence apology letter,” she said.

“My whole life has changed and I cannot even go back to my hometown for fear of seeing him.”

Domestic abuse an ‘epidemic’

“Every nine seconds, a woman is battered in the U.S.,” Radha Iyengar ’02 of Stop Our Silence said, setting the tone for her speech full of eye-opening facts.

“Nearly one third of all women have been abused by the time they are eighteen and about one-fourth of all female college students are sexually assaulted,” she added.

Iyengar pointed out that violence against women is an “equal opportunity epidemic” and “does not discriminate against SAT scores,” a comment aimed at MIT students.

Compounding the problem is that over two-thirds of cases go unreported because women are “afraid to talk, act, go out, and report,” Iyengar said. Most women don’t leave the relationship because they have no support system or self-esteem.

Addressing a skeptical, educated audience, she said attackers are not just “uneducated, downtrodden, two-headed monsters.” More often, they are “charismatic men committing cycles of abuse to assert control,” she said.

Some male members of the audience posed questions that expressed much skepticism at the possibility of violence at MIT. Students’ comments included, “I don’t know anyone who has been abusive,” and “Aren’t we in a high socio-economic class to not be abusive towards women?” Others raised questions of false reports by women and questioned having the burden of proof fall on the male.

Iyengar called for actions to challenge these problems of objectifying women, sexual jokes, and the suspicions of false reporting.

While the talk last year was limited to only members of AXO and featured only the Campus Police, this year it has grown to become an Interfraternity Council Stars of Education event.

Health Services Worry Students

Teach-in, from Page 1

came up with the idea for the teach-in and some of the things they would be doing to follow up the teach-in. He also mentioned a task force composed of both student and faculty members who would work together to address failings in the system.

Students raise concerns

Two students spoke about positive and negative experiences they had when dealing with mental health problems. Bradley T. Ito ’02 spoke first about how he felt the system worked when he needed it. Amanda Griffith ’03, however, was not nearly as complimentary. “I know some people who were prescribed medication when all they wanted was counseling,” she said.

Comments from the audience

mentioned that it was very difficult to get an appointment with a health-care provider.

Another student commented that the quickest she had been able to get an appointment was four days and that she had to wait two weeks while she was going through a crisis.

In response to these comments, Reich said that MIT medical staffers “need to work to make mental health a priority,” adding that “you have to feel that [the student and healthcare provider are] a team ... so that we and you can address problems in a timely fashion.”

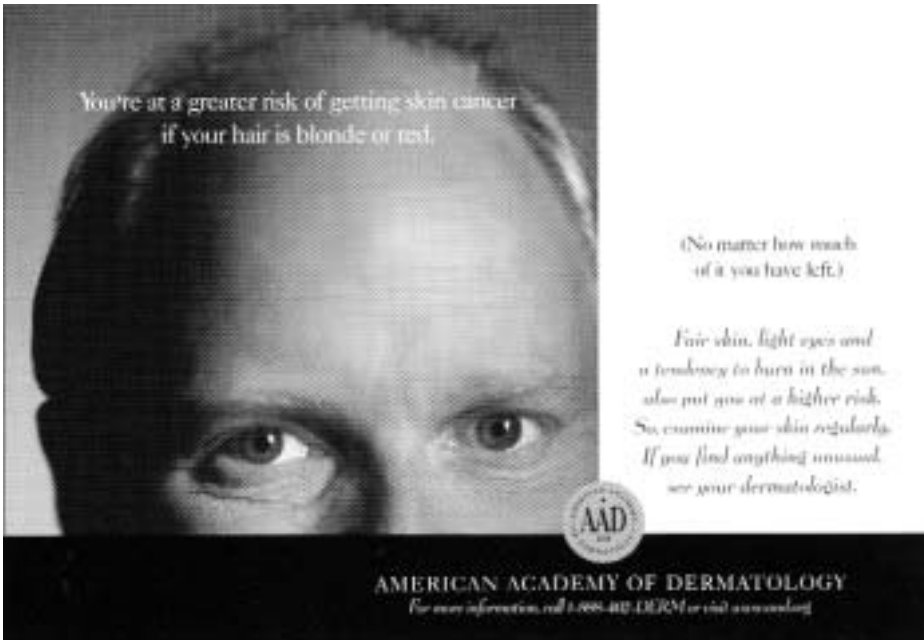
Kristine A. Girard, a psychiatrist in the Medical Department who was in attendance, advised students not to deal with receptionists and said that the fastest way to get an appointment was to see the people in counseling and support services

because they had more direct access to the doctors.

Griffith also offered the advice that if a student didn’t “feel comfortable then [with one person]... [they] should go see someone else.”

Margaret A. Ross, another psychiatrist in attendance at the teach-in, said that “e-mail makes me nervous,” and that it was probably not the best way to contact the doctor because a doctor seeing patients might not be able to get to an emergency cry for help soon enough.

Mellis said that the UA that they noticed the problem with mental health last year and that over the summer they sent surveys to various colleges to see how they dealt with the issues of mental health. The CSL is now trying to get feedback from the MIT campus. More information can be found by e-mailing <ua-csl-chairs@mit.edu>.



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The Math Gene

How Mathematical Thinking Evolved and Why Numbers Are Like Gossip

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AND WHY NUMBERS ARE
LIKE GOSSIP

KEITH DEVLIN

Friday, Oct. 20, 6 pm

MIT E25-111, 45 Carleton Street, Cambridge
(near Kendall T)

If people are endowed with a "number instinct" similar to the "language instinct"—as recent research suggests—then why can't everyone do math? In *THE MATH GENE: How Mathematical Thinking Evolved and Why Numbers Are Like Gossip* (Basic Books, 2000) mathematician and popular writer Keith Devlin attacks both sides of this question and suggests ways in which we can all improve our mathematical skills.

Devlin offers a breathtakingly new theory of language development that describes how language evolved in two stages and how its main purpose was not communication. He goes on to show that the ability to think mathematically arose out of the same symbol-manipulating ability that was so crucial to the very first emergence of true language.

Why, then, can't we do math as well as we speak? The answer, says Devlin, is that we can and do—we just don't recognize when we're using mathematical reasoning.

Keith Devlin is the Dean of the School of Science at St. Mary's College, Moraga, California, and a Senior Researcher at the Center for Study of Language and Information at Stanford University. He is the author 22 books, and over 65 technical research papers in mathematics. His voice is heard regularly on National Public Radio, on such programs as "Weekend Edition," "Talk of the Nation," and "Science Friday." His last book was *The Language of Mathematics* (Freeman, 2000).

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ERIKA BROWN—THE TECH

Members and friends of the MIT Jewish Community gathered Tuesday night in the sukkat on Kresge Oval to celebrate "Music Under the Stars" as part of this year's Sukkot celebrations.

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Workers attempt to patch a minor leak in a water main that shut down Massachusetts Avenue Tuesday afternoon. The northbound lane was already closed for on-going construction near building N51 when the water main break shut down the other lane. Traffic was diverted around the block for most of the afternoon. No flooding resulted from the leak.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SEPHIR HAMILTON—THE TECH



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Faculty Meeting, from Page 1

what — undergraduate education and student life, and graduate fellowships. He said that the fellowships are “something that has to engage all of us. A lot of work is going to have to be done,” he said. Major considerations in the formation of the financial plan were operations, physical capital, expected return on investment, and the amount of the return available for use.

One other consideration was the competitive nature of the plan. Curry offered as an example the summer initiative benefit, in which MIT subsidizes faculty costs for graduate students in the summer session. “It re-establishes a competitive edge,” he said. In a presentation entitled “MIT: Opportunity, Progress, and Plans,” originally given to trustees at an October meeting of the Corporation, Vest listed Institute academic priori-

ties that include information technology and intelligence science, neuroscience and studies of the brain and mind, basic biology studies’ interface with engineering and medicine, 21st century business and entrepreneurship, the visual and performing arts, and new media. Besides the MIT plan and financial model adopted by the Executive Committee, MIT’s financial resources include stabilizing federal R&D funding, the capital campaign

currently totaling \$1 billion, and gifts to the school. “Due to the remarkable goodwill of the friends of the Institute and the good state of the economy, we are seeing more of these donations.” Vest also praised Treasurer Allan S. Bufferd for MIT’s 57.7 percent return on last year’s endowment. Curry noted that the performance of the endowment in 2000 “provides a buffer — an extra comfort.”



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Preston Mesmerizes Audience with Stories, Readings

Author of *The Hot Zone* Describes His Reporting Style and Writing Techniques

By Sonali Mukherjee
STAFF REPORTER

Have you ever wished for a lecturer who so effortlessly penetrates his audience that you just stop taking notes and sit glued to your seat, mesmerized by his presence?

Richard Preston, the non-fiction author famous for his intriguing book *The Hot Zone*, a vivid account of the frantic containment of the deadly Ebola virus carried by monkeys in a Washington suburb, is one of those magical personalities.

A composed yet energetic Preston addressed a mixed audience of students, professors, and science writers at the Tang Auditorium on Tuesday. The lecture, sponsored by the Whitehead Institute and the New England Writer's Association, began with an introduction by Alan P. Lightman, the John E. Burchard Professor of Humanities at MIT and author of *Einstein's Dreams*. Lightman began by describing readers' innate thirst for good stories and how Preston quenches this thirst with his writing.

"There is a deep need in human beings to tell stories ... to hear stories ... [This idea] cuts across all genres of writing," Lightman said.

"Richard Preston combines a good story, high interest, a reporter's keen eye for detail, and good writing," Lightman added. He "is one of the best storytellers of our land."

Preston's lecture focused mainly on the techniques he used to write his books. These included not only the physical writing of words on

paper, but also good reporting and interviewing techniques, since Preston bases much of his writing on fact. He described science writing as extremely difficult because of the two challenges every science writer faces: "You have to get the science right, and you have to tell the story."

Preston gave an interesting analogy when it came to describing how he writes his books so they attract diverse audiences. After speculating on the origins of stories and human language, he asked the audience to imagine a group of people gathered around a fire listening to Homer spin a tale of the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey*.

The people would be of various educational abilities, social statuses, and ages. Anyone could and would listen to these stories because they transcend all bounds

One of Preston's secrets ... is getting incredibly interesting or controversial information down on paper during an interview.

of society. Preston tries to attract that diverse audience with his books by writing stories to which all people can relate.

He showed his humorous side by regaling the audience with a

story of a twelve year old who came up to him during a book signing of *The Hot Zone* with a well-thumbed copy of the novel and began excitedly praising him for the first scene in the book where a man infected with the Ebola virus dies on an airplane in a vivid, gruesome manner.

One of the reasons that the lecture was so spellbinding was because Preston interspersed the lecture with personal stories that appealed to the audience, a backwards version of one of his writing techniques known as a "set piece." In a set piece, the author stops a traveling narrative to illustrate a certain fact that the reader needs to understand in order to move forward with the piece.

This technique is very difficult because the author needs to be skilled in finding suitable places for the set piece. Otherwise, the story starts to drag.

Another interesting writing technique Preston learned at Princeton was "greening," or editing words out of a piece of writing, to decrease circuitous rambling.

Preston described this technique with wry humor, saying that after he finishes writing, he must become a "vicious editor" and "assassinate the stuff I've written." To further illustrate his point, he performed an exercise he had done in a Princeton writing class and "greened" the Gettysburg Address, much to the amusement of the audience.

In addition to writing, Preston is a master reporter. He mainly spoke to the audience about interviewing technique and fact checking, two of the most important details in non-fiction writing. One of Preston's secrets with interviewing is getting incredibly interesting or controversial information down on paper during an interview. When someone says something that he knows will

make a good story, Preston will stop, listen intently, and then ask a dull question. When the interviewee launches into a dull answer, he will start furiously scribbling down everything he had previously said - the real story.

Preston also said he deplores the use of tape recorders because he

"Stories are diamonds that are difficult to find - then you have to cut them." — Richard Preston

believes that it interferes with getting the story: the interviewee starts talking to the tape, and the author forgets about the details of the person in front of them.

Interviewing is a major part of non-fiction writing, and Preston spends enormous amounts of time with people, checking over and over to make sure that what they remember is correct. In this manner, he gives credibility to his writing that people can absolutely verify, a technique he called "the repeatable result."

This seems to be a very tedious process, and one of the questions asked during the event was if many people turned him away because of this. Preston replied that the only person who had ever turned him down for an interview was James Watson, co-discoverer of the DNA double helix, and that "he probably regrets it."

Preston also performed two readings during the lecture. One was from an article he had written about two Russian brothers who built a supercomputer to compute

the number pi. Preston, who said he was never good at math, explained the deviousness of pi and how it fooled some people into thinking it is a completely random number. He revealed to the audience that he had spent an enormous amount of time going over this article with a mathematician to make sure the math was completely correct, which was a very laborious process.

He ended the piece with the statement: "Not even nature itself might know the nature of pi." There was complete silence in the room for about thirty seconds after he finished.

The second reading, from *The Hot Zone*, was an account of a scientist who worked at USAMRIID (United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases) and her close encounter with the Ebola virus while working in BioLevel 4. There is an area in USAMRIID where scientists enter in space suits and work with lethal viruses, such as the Ebola Zaire virus that had infected the monkeys in the story. The scientist, who had sliced her hand with a knife the previous day while opening a can of beans at her home, found a tear in her suit while working with a deadly virus.

Preston took the audience through her agonizing, cathartic thought process of what would happen if monkey blood mingled with her wound and she became infected. This is one of the most compelling scenes in the book, and Preston read it with a flair that mesmerized the audience for the second time in a hour.

Another reason that Preston's stories are so appealing is that they do not ignore the common people. Preston described his interviewing efforts for *The Hot Zone* in great detail, emphasizing that he looked mainly at the people who were actually involved in the containment incident, not the ones who stood back and gave orders at a distance.

"I wanted to talk to enlisted people, not brass," Preston said. "Young people did something that would make most colonels die of fright. [They] were afraid of dying without their parents knowing what happened to them." He was referring to the brave armed forces that actually performed the task of quarantining the house where the infected monkeys had been kept. In essence, his story was about people, not officers, and after the Army understood that, they allowed Preston to go about his job getting the facts so he could finish writing *The Hot Zone*.

One of the most memorable quotes of the evening was Preston's metaphor for stories. "Stories are diamonds that are difficult to find — then you have to cut them."

Other books he has written include *First Light*, a story about the construction of the first telescope, *American Steel*, an account of a struggling steel company in Indiana, and his latest, *The Cobra Event*, a which is about a terrorist loose in New York City armed with a deadly biological weapon. This book, which was based on facts, was purportedly read by President Bill Clinton and alarmed him so much he handed it to his White House Staff and asked them if this event could truly happen.

Preston was born in Massachusetts and graduated summa cum laude from Pomona College in California. He later received his Ph.D. in English in Princeton. He has won various prizes, among them the McDermott Prize in Arts at MIT, the American Institute Physics Award for Best Science Writing, and the Overseas Press Club of America's Whitman Basso Award for the best reporting in any medium on environment issues for *The Hot Zone*. In addition to writing novels, he is a regular contributor to the *New Yorker* magazine.

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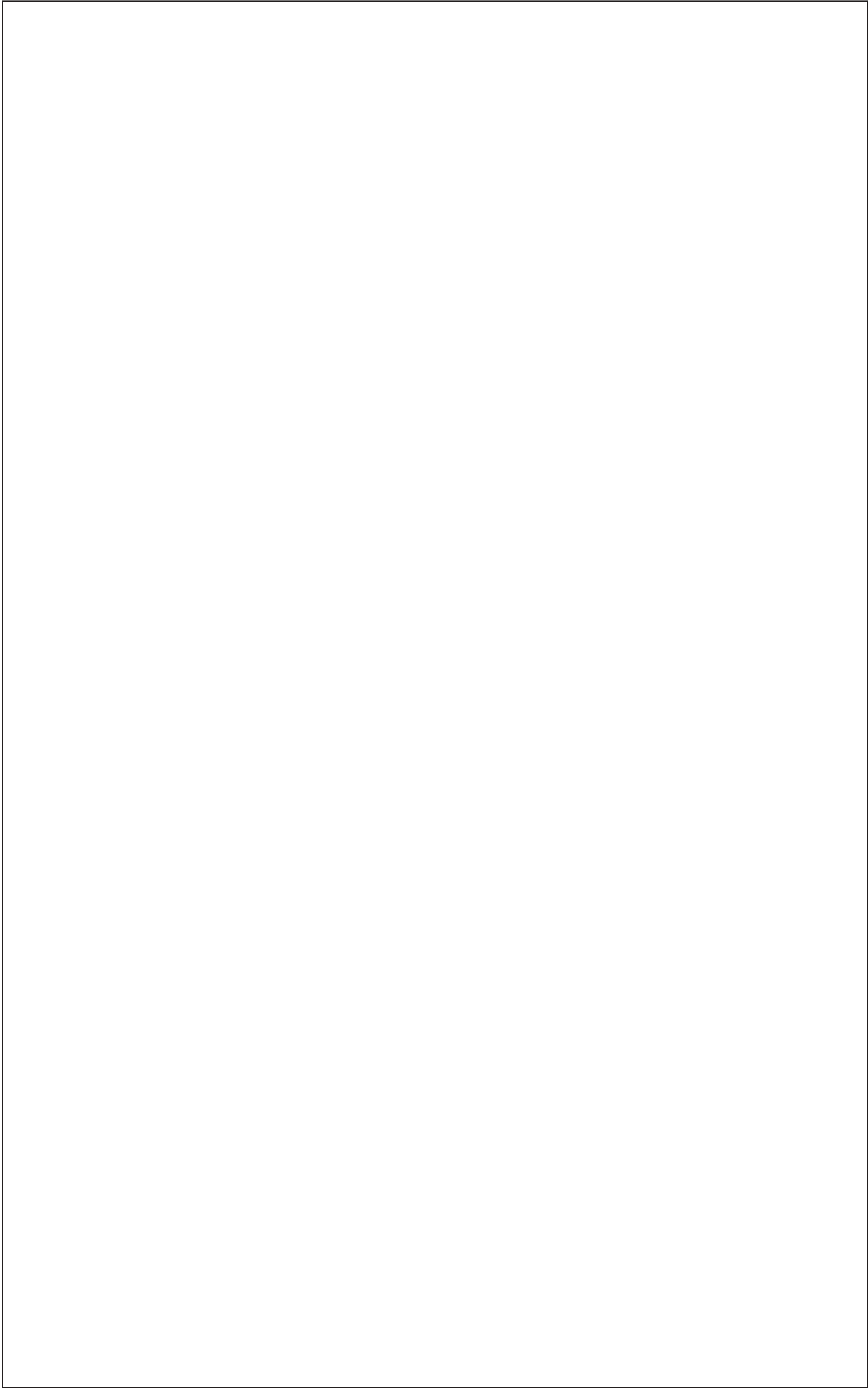


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Nidal-El Khairy of UMass-Lowell places a candle on a makeshift memorial for recent Palestinian victims of the Middle East violence during a peace vigil in Boston Common Thursday.

Corley Served Band For over Fifty Years

Corley, from Page 1

Orchestra from 1955–1965 and the Boston Conservatory’s Wind Ensemble from 1973–1980, and was a member of the New England Conservatory’s Board of Trustees.

Corley also served as music director for the Brookline Public Schools for 1956–1973. As part of his work with school bands and orchestras, Corley has appeared as a festival conductor and clinician across the country.

John Corley received B.M. and M.M. degrees from Boston University under the teaching of Boston legend Arthur Fiedler. His directing career began in Iceland as the U.S. Army’s youngest band leader and went on to conduct over 700 con-

certs for the Allied troops. His success was such that he was invited back to Iceland years later on tour with the MIT Concert Band.

Corley’s legacy also lives on in more than fifty original works for concert band commissioned during his tenure at MIT, a tradition that continues in the Concert Band today. The Band will be performing one such work, “Corley’s March,” at their Fall Concert (Sunday, October 29, 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium).

A wake will be held this Sunday from 2 – 6 p.m. at McDonald/Rockwell and McDonald Funeral Services, 270 Main Street in Watertown. The funeral will be Monday at noon in the Bigelow Chapel at Mt. Auburn Cemetary in Cambridge.



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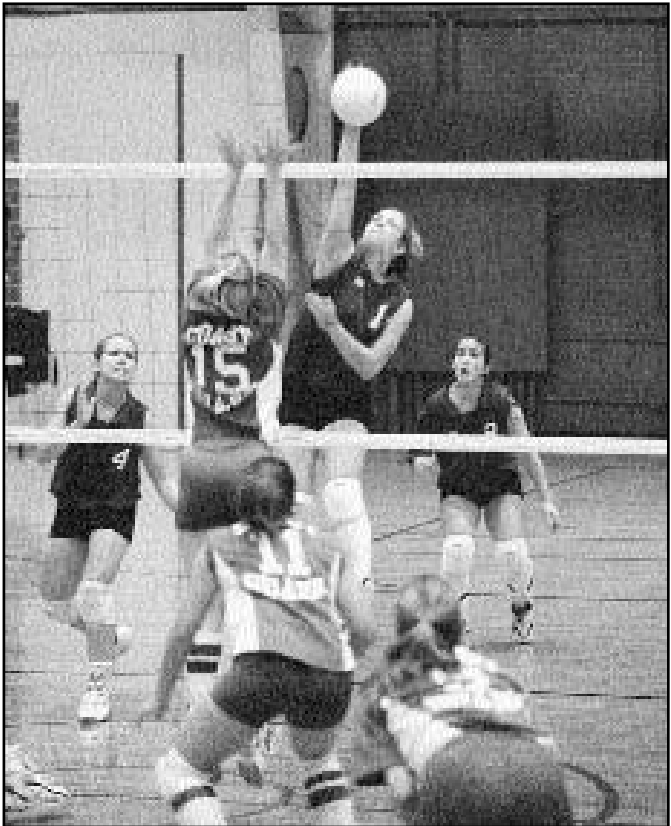
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SEPHIR HAMILTON—THE TECH
Kelly Martens '03 spikes the volleyball past U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Keidi Niemann (#15) en route to MIT's 3-0 rout of USCGA in Du Pont gym on Tuesday. The team improved to a dominating 6-1 record in NEWMAC play, and 18-7 overall. The women will play at home again Friday and Saturday (October 20 and 21) in the Hall of Fame Classic.

MIT Rugby Takes Out Mystic River's C-side

By Samuel D. Mertens
TEAM MEMBER

Last Saturday, the Rucking Beavers beat the Boston Gentlemen, Mystic River's C-side, 27-17 after an unnecessarily exciting game at Briggs Field. MIT's forwards were dominating in the set plays, and the Beavers' new second row unit of Adam Hendriks G, Kevin Frye G and Len Weiss, were impressive. Despite this great advantage, MIT's backline did not bring their A-game, and too many unforced errors stopped them from playing in their usual high-scoring flashy way.

The Beavers had a dream start. The forwards retained possession and on a barndoor play from a line-out, Thomas Leurent G pushed the ball over the tryline to open the score. Just minutes later, John Paul Shen '02 crashed from a scrum through the Gents defense for the try, which Fabio Dalan G converted to widen the MIT lead to 12-0.

Another beautiful backline play put the ball into Leurent's hands for

his second score. But then MIT seemed to fall asleep. They gave away a series of penalties, letting the visitors come back to 17-5. But another weak-side play from the scrum gave scrumhalf Johnny Robinson G, the opportunity to score himself.

The second half started differently than the first. MIT started to compile a big pile of errors. Again a series of penalties and a few bad passes allowed the visitors back in the game, as they came only one try away from victory at 22-17. But from a penalty play, Robinson managed to get the ball to Gavin Braithwaite G for the last try of the game.

The final scoreboard read 27-17, a deserved Beaver victory, but the game should never have become a thriller.

The Beavers have lost their top spot in the division because of their defeat at Seacoast two weeks ago. But if they win their next two games against Lowell and Harvard Business School at home, they should be able to reach the New England Championships.

Beavers Grab the Early Lead

Football, from Page 28

S. Lassey '03, and Fernando Ceballos '02, along with tight end Daniel Relihan '04.

MIT starts hot, Bison stay close

The Beaver offense again started quickly out of the gate, scoring on their first two opportunities. Deutsch had the hot hand early, completing 8 of his first 9 passes en route to a 14 of 19, 211-yard day. His fifth completion with 4:50 left in the first quarter was a 27-yard touchdown strike to a slanting Robert R. Owsley '02 that put MIT up 7-0.

On the next Beaver possession the maturing freshman quarterback drove the team 60 yards in 12 plays. Although MIT stalled near the goal line, kicker Kevin M. Ferguson '02 capped the drive by drilling a 19-yard field goal at 11:41 of the second quarter to push the lead to 10.

Owsley, who has emerged as Deutsch's favorite target this season, abused the talented Nichols secondary all day, finishing with 9 receptions for 117 yards. Nonetheless, Deutsch, who was named to the NEFC Weekly Honor Roll for the second straight week, spread out the Bison defense by completing passes to six different receivers. In an unusual role reversal, it was the multidimensional passing attack that opened up the MIT running game, allowing significant contributions by running backs Kip M. Johann-Berkel '02 (113 yards) and Kamal H. Mokeddem '01 (65 yards).

Yet despite the development of a well-oiled MIT juggernaut on offense, Nichols kept within striking distance on a big passing play with 2:54 in the second quarter. Bison quarterback Jarrod Rouanzoin, an effective scrambler with a strong arm, broke the pocket and rolled right before firing a 46-yard dart into the end zone on the run. The spectacular pass was hauled in by Nichols receiver Adam Perry, bringing the favorites to within 3 going into halftime.

Nichols shut down in second half

The Beavers continued to exert offensive dominance, shocking the Bison with a 16-play, 90-yard touchdown drive to open the second half. The key play of the drive, which ate more than 9 minutes off the game clock, was a third-and-5 screen pass to Mokeddem, who

picked up a fine cut block from Nelson to gain 20 yards and a first down. Mokeddem would later score on a run from 2 yards out to reestablish MIT's 10-point lead.

Near the end of the third quarter Nichols drew to within one score of tying the game, but it was through no effort of their own. An errant snap on an MIT punt attempt was wisely tossed out of the back of the end zone by Ferguson, resulting in a Nichols safety that allowed them to tie on a touchdown and a two-point conversion.

The Bison then provided some drama by returning the ensuing free kick to the MIT 42. However, the Beaver defense, on the strength a spectacular tackle behind the line of scrimmage by Schreiber, remained calm to deny Nichols from scoring on its best chance of the day.

The Bison would get one more shot at preventing the upset when a Mokeddem fumble was recovered by lineman Jason Conquest with 10:51 remaining in the fourth. However, another great play by Schreiber led to a fourth-and-long situation for Nichols, and the drive

ended on an unsuccessful Bison fake punt attempt batted out of the air by Alvan Eric P Loreto '01. Three plays later, Deutsch struck big to put the game away with a 56-yard touchdown bomb to receiver Gregory N. Nelson '02.

In addition to the fabulous effort by Schreiber, who earned a spot on the NEFC Weekly Defensive Honor Roll, solid performances were turned in by MIT's marquee defensive players as well. Linebacker Brian L. Licata '01 had 7 tackles and safety Kevin R. Richardson '01 recorded 6 tackles. Cornerback Angus Huang G notched 3 tackles, an interception, and a pass breakup.

More praiseworthy, though, was the effort of the entire unit, which silenced Bison senior running back and 1999 NEFC Offensive Player of the Year Matt Fox (12 carries, 36 yards). It marked the first time this year Nichols's most formidable weapon finished under 100 yards rushing. For Fox, it was one unwelcome contrast to his season. But for the Beavers, it was just one more welcome contrast to their day.

Beavers to Battle Lancers Next

Tomorrow the Worcester State Lancers make a 42-mile trek east on Interstate 90 to visit the Beavers. The Lancers, a traditionally strong program, have bounced back from a 1-9 season in 1999 to post a 5-1 record this year. Last week WSC survived a close call at home, pulling out a 19-18 victory over Framingham State after a missed late fourth-quarter field goal attempt by the Rams.

On offense, Worcester State runs mostly basic two-back, three-receiver sets. However, they do not possess as much talent at the skill positions that the MIT defense has seen for much of the season. Running backs Chris Parker and Joel Lauder split the rushing load evenly, and an improved offensive line protects freshman quarterback Cean Oksanish. Oksanish, who has matured rapidly over the course of the season, has a strong arm but limited accuracy. The biggest Lancer offensive standout is senior wide receiver Jeremy Frisch, who had a solid performance last year against MIT.

The Worcester State defense presents its opponents with a basic 4-4 defense. Defense has been a major improvement for the 2000 Lancer squad, despite the loss of 1999 free safety and team captain Mike Paladino to graduation. Senior linebacker Jason Grenier has emerged as the defensive leader, and junior linebacker Jarrod Steele is an intimidating force and playmaker.

WSC comes to Cambridge seeking revenge for an embarrassing 27-7 home defeat at the hands of MIT last season. The Lancers play their home games on artificial turf, and so the long grass of Steinbrenner Field, kept healthier than usual by unseasonably warm temperatures as of late, should help the Beavers in their mission to slow down their opponents. For MIT to register their second straight upset, they must again establish a passing attack early in the game in order to free up the run, and they must look to pressure the young Lancer quarterback with aggressive blitzing schemes. With the growing confidence of the Beaver squad, there is no prohibitive favorite in this matchup.

Soccer Beats Lasell on Penalty Kick

Soccer, from Page 28

had accumulated a respectable record this fall. The Engineers showed clearly they were the better team, but were unable to score through 90 minutes of regulation. The MIT defense, though, continuing their solid play from the Springfield game, kept Lasell off the board as well, and the game went into the first 15-minute sudden-death overtime period tied at zero.

Fourteen minutes of overtime passed without a score, but with a

paltry three seconds remaining on the clock, Nestle was taken down in the box and a penalty kick was awarded to MIT. The referee endured a lengthy and profane tirade from the Lasell bench, but the call stood, Anderson scored easily, and the Engineers walked away with a 1-0 win.

Riding their streak, MIT next faced WPI on the road last Friday night.

Unsure how any self-respecting soccer team can call a piece of green carpet home, MIT neverthe-

less took advantage of the quick surface and jumped to an early lead. Receiving an Anderson pass and carrying the ball in a 50 yard foot race with the WPI defense, Nestle scored to make it 1-0. The first half ended without further scoring.

In the second half, opportunities were squandered by both teams. WPI rattled the woodwork and forced numerous saves by MIT goalkeeper Ken Jin '01. An MIT player who shall remain nameless put a gently rolling ball over the crossbar of an open goal from a distance of six feet. Neither team was able to score and MIT won its third in a row.

Looking at the last three games, MIT has allowed only 2 goals, scoring 5.

Since the first half of the Springfield game, keeper Ken Jin has kept the net clean for over 240 consecutive minutes. The Engineer defense, led by sweeper Rory Foster, '04, and marking backs Ken Takase '01, and Scott Wang '02, also deserves mention for its part in the victories. MIT's record is now 5-5-1 overall, and 2-1 in the conference.

The men's soccer team played conference rivals Babson at home on Wednesday, but the result was unavailable when this article went to print.

On Saturday, MIT travels to play Clark, another conference opponent.

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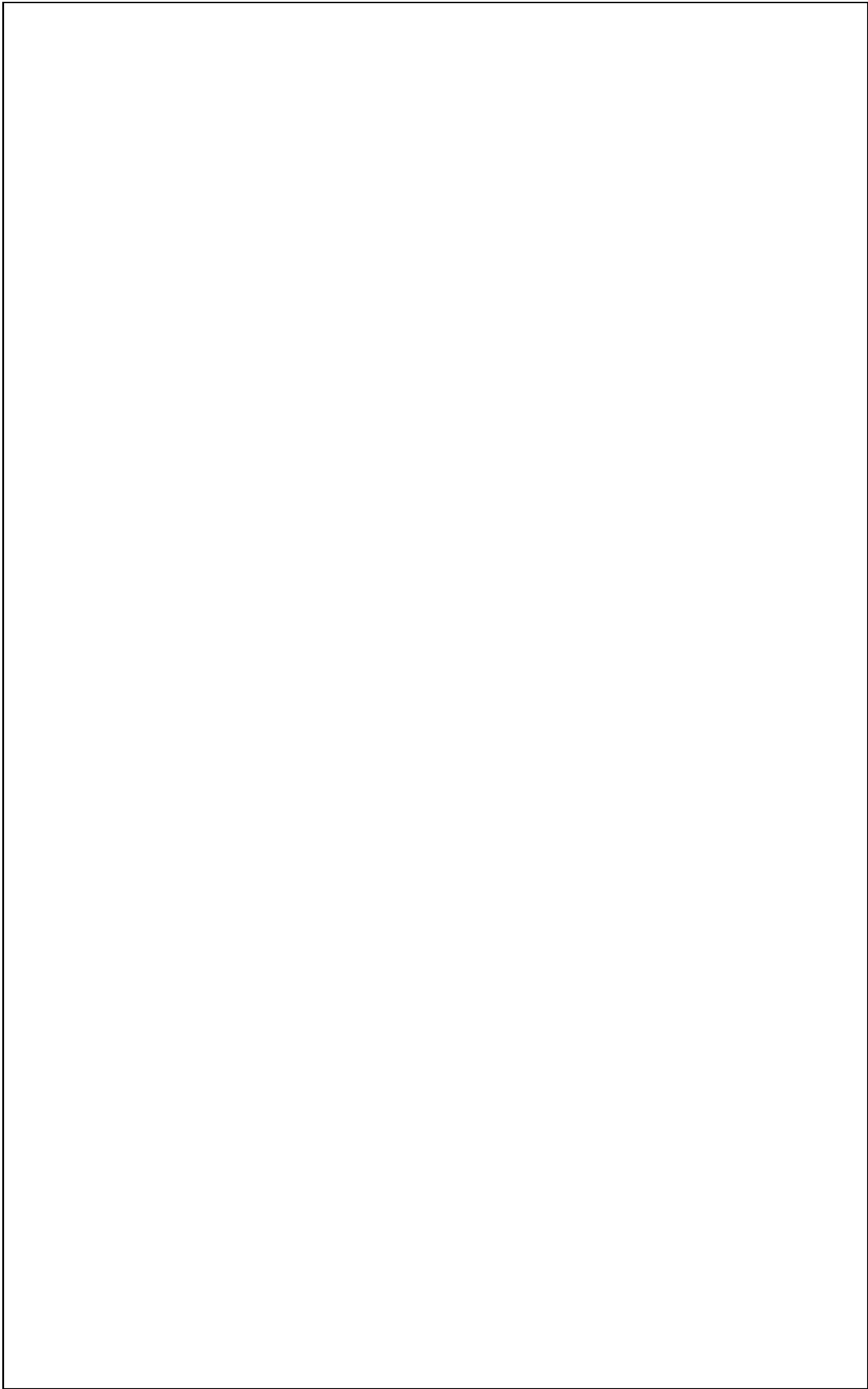
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SPORTS

Football Wins First Game, Beats Nichols

Beavers Shine on Both Sides of the Ball, Dominate Time of Position in First Victory

By Alvie Loreto
STAFF REPORTER

The scene following the MIT football team's first victory of the year was certainly an exhilarating moment worth capturing in photographs. The game itself, however, resembled a set of film negatives.

Dark became light, cold became hot, and all roles were reversed as MIT pulled off a stunning 24-9 road victory over Nichols College. Led by another inspiring performance from quarterback Philip M. Deutsch '04, the Beaver offense uncharacteristically exhibited dominating ball control over one of the top defenses in the conference. As a result, the well-rested MIT defensive unit stymied the Bison offense time and again to produce the latest upset in the wacky, topsy-turvy New England Football Conference.

To the MIT football faithful, and even the players themselves, everything was so backwards it seemed surreal. For one thing, the weather at game time was 80 degrees, hardly the making of a typical October day in New England. "It was hot, and they had some guys who looked out of shape," said MIT offensive guard and captain Jarad J. Vasquez '01. "We thought we'd be able to take it to them and wear them out."

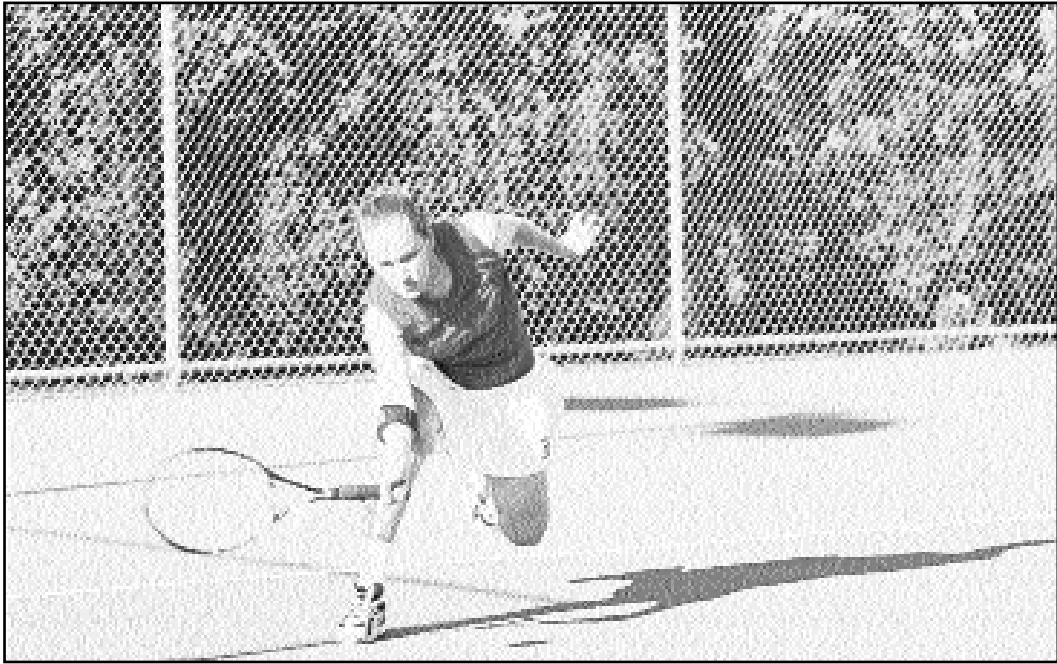
Moreover, the usually raucous

Bison Bowl seemed strangely subdued by the visiting team's repeated execution on both sides of the ball. "We knew we were capable of playing like this, but it was weird out there," said Tech linebacker Brent M. Schreiber '03, who grabbed the spotlight with 11 tackles, including 2 for losses, and a pass breakup. "For some reason they (Nichols) were playing like we were the big favorites who were coming into their house to beat them up. And their fans, they were definitely quieter than what we usually see on the road."

And more importantly, it was MIT (1-5, 1-4 NEFC Boyd), not the opponent, who controlled the tempo of the game. The Beaver offense, which traditionally relies on big plays to keep the game close, generated long, physical, time-consuming drives to grind down the Bison defense and in the process keep their own defense fresh. The most telling statistic of the game was time of possession, which saw the Beavers hold an outrageous 41:43 to 18:17 edge over Nichols (4-2, 3-2 NEFC Boyd).

Credit for this huge margin, which directly resulted in the victory, goes to the excellent blocking of offensive linemen Vasquez, Keith G. Reed '04, Justin M. Nelson '04, Christopher J. Khan '03, Bradford

Football, Page 26



ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

Kelly J. Koskelin '02 lunges for a ball during her Saturday match against Mount Holyoke sophomore Tony Baumgartner. Koskelin won the match 2 sets to 1 (6-3, 6-1) to help MIT win 8-1 overall against Mt. Holyoke.

Soccer Victorious in Last 3 Games

Team Prevails in Matches against Springfield, Lasell, and WPI

By Matt Gaetke
TEAM MEMBER

After starting their season 2-0 and winning the Union Tournament, the MIT men's soccer team suffered a series of disappointing losses, falling to a 2-5-1 record. The Engineers hosted defending conference tournament champion Springfield College on Saturday, October 7th, hoping for a spark to turn their season around.

Freshman Doug Allaire started the scoring for MIT, neatly heading a cross past a frozen Springfield goalkeeper into the side netting. Another goal was quickly added by Nick Nestle '04, giving himself a nice birthday present and MIT a 2-0 lead. Springfield, however, pulled together and snuck two into the net before the halftime whistle paused the action at a 2-2 tie.

In the second half, captain Jim Anderson '01, capitalized on an opportunity at the top of the box.

His goal proved to be the winner as MIT shut down Springfield's offensive threat for the rest of the game and won 3-2. MIT coach Walter Alessi refused to comment on the significance of the victory over Springfield with the cliché: "It's only one game."

MIT resumed play on Tuesday the 10th against Lasell at home. Despite playing in only their third season as a varsity program, Lasell

Soccer, Page 26